

STORIES OF THE STATES

MAKERS  
OF  
ARKANSAS HISTORY

BY

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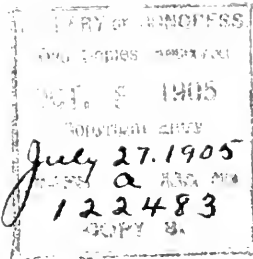
*WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAPS*



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## PREFACE.

The author wishes to see the children of Arkansas as familiar with the leading men of their own State as they are with the great men of the Nation. In presenting this little book to the public, he does so in the hope that it may contribute something toward this end.

The book follows largely the biographical plan, grouping the facts of each phase of our history about some character eminent in its development. This method, compared with the chronological method, has the advantage not only of being more vivid, but of stimulating in boys and girls an ambition to excel and a legitimate state pride. The latter cannot be too much emphasized. It takes form not only in a broad patriotism, but also in the study of local history and in the erection of appropriate memorials and monuments. It is hoped that these chapters may tend to increase in Arkansas this civic spirit. Several distinguished names have been omitted, because the author was compelled at times to choose between two or more men who were types of the same phase of the State's history.

The book is designed for use either as a textbook or as a supplementary reader. The ques-

tions at the end of each chapter not only review the chapter, but also suggest thought and investigation on the part of the pupil. Many of the stories may serve as a basis for exercises in reproduction. The style is such that the book may be used in the fourth or fifth grade, perhaps even in the third, so that children who leave school early may have a knowledge of those facts in our State's history which it is a discredit for any citizen not to know.

The map on page 17 is used by courtesy of the N. D. Thompson Publishing Company, and that on page 59 is from Hempstead's School History of Arkansas, by permission of the University Publishing Company.

Miss Lina X. Reed of Fayetteville, an experienced teacher, gave the manuscript a careful and critical reading.

The library of every teacher, as well as of every school, should have some or all of the following books on Arkansas history: Hempstead's School History of Arkansas, University Publishing Co., New Orleans; Shinn's School History of Arkansas, B. F. Johnson Publishing Co., Richmond; Hallum's Biographical History of Arkansas, Fred W. Allsopp, Little Rock; Hempstead's Pictorial History of Arkansas, N. D. Thompson Publishing Co., St. Louis; Pope's Early Days in Arkansas, Fred W. Allsopp, Little Rock.

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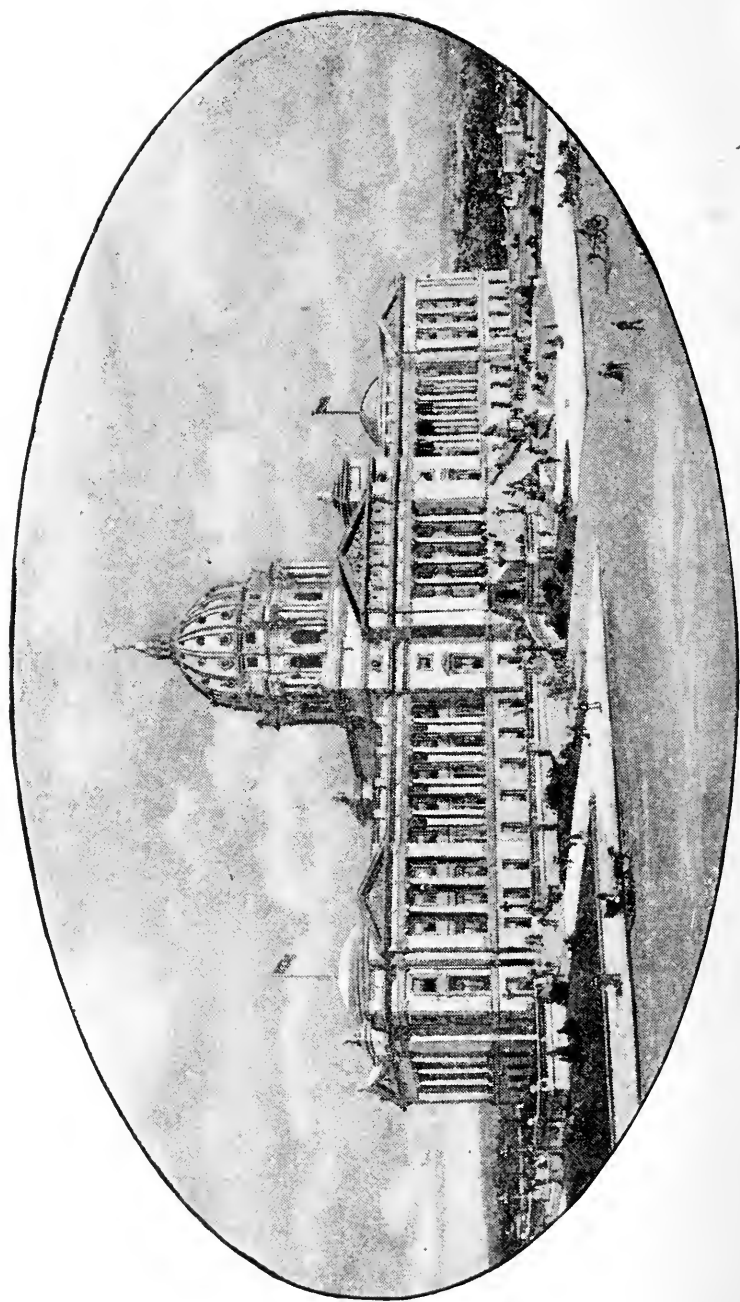
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THE CAPITOL AT LITTLE ROCK.



## CHAPTER I.

### HERNANDO DE SOTO.

1496-1542.

The discovery of the New World by Columbus opened up a wide field for adventure. To the people of the Old World, America became a fairy land of fabulous wealth. Stories were told of rich mines of silver and gold, of jewels and precious stones, and of a wonderful fountain whose waters could give youth to old age.

The opportunity for gaining wealth or for winning fame fired the soul of many a youth in the Old World. Men of broken fortunes or of lost reputation came flocking to America; but many of these fortune-seekers were sorely disappointed. However, while they failed in obtaining wealth, they did a much better thing: they explored the land and made known its marvelous resources.

These Europeans first made settlements along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, and from there they spread to the

interior of the country. This is why Arkansas was not settled until long after colonies were established in Virginia and the Carolinas.

The first white man to touch Arkansas soil was one of these adventurous fortune-seekers from the Old World—the brave and chivalrous Hernando de Soto (hě̃-năn'-



HERNANDO DE SOTO.

dō dē sō'-tō). In Eu-

rope the people were divided into two classes. The laborers, the farmers, and the merchants composed the lower class and were called common people; the officials, the clergy, and the landlords composed the upper class and were called nobles.

Though a poor boy, de Soto belonged to

the nobility. He obtained a good education at one of the universities of Spain; and when a young man, he joined an expedition into Peru, where he gained both fame and fortune. He explored the coasts of Central America and, with a small band of Spaniards, commanded by Pizarro (pī-zä'-rō), went to the heart of the empire of

the Incas (ing'-käs), seized the capital, and captured the governor. Then he returned to Spain. But the stories of the gold and the fountain of youth in Florida made him restless and eager to explore this new land. So he fitted out his own expedition. The king of Spain gave him the title of Governor of Cuba and Florida. He sailed first to Cuba, the island which Columbus had



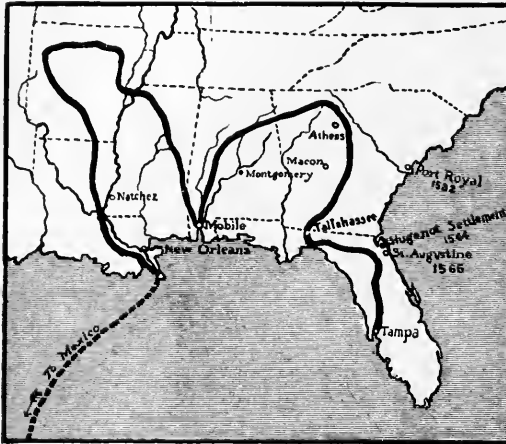
LANDS WHICH COLUMBUS HAD DISCOVERED.

*(Marked in white on the map.)*

discovered, and on which already seven towns had been built.

Though rich and full of honors, de Soto was still young and ambitious. He rebuilt and fortified Havana, which had been burned by pirates, and then started for Florida. Many had been eager to join this famous leader. So when he set out, it was with a band of six hundred brave companions. In the spring of 1539, he landed at Tampa Bay on the western coast of Florida. He spent two years wandering over the territory now oc-

cupied by Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama. In May, 1541, he came to a river so broad and so full that he called it, in Spanish, the Rio Grande (rē'-ō grān'-dā); that is, the *great river*. The natives called it Meschacebe (mēs'-cha-cē'-bē), *father of waters*, which we write Mississippi. On the shore of this river, de Soto built rude barges



THE LONG MARCH OF DE SOTO.

ges and crossed to the Arkansas side, near the mouth of the White River.

The next year, the last year of his life, the great captain spent in traveling over what is now Arkansas. This territory was then a vast wilder-

ness, inhabited by wild animals and equally wild savages. De Soto went up the Mississippi beyond the mouth of the St. Francis River, passing on the way some Indian villages. For the most part, the red men treated him kindly; but he, like most men of his time, was cruel. He looked upon the Indians as he did upon beasts of burden; captured them when he could, reduced them to slavery, and compelled them to carry his baggage. Such treatment was a great humiliation to the proud Indian war-

riors, and in revenge they often inflicted severe suffering upon the Spaniards.

Some of these simple-minded people, it is said, thought de Soto a divine being and brought him two blind men to be healed. But as he wished them to know the true God, he erected a cross, told them the story of Christ, and directed them to worship Him.

Leaving the St. Francis country, de Soto journeyed southwest until he came to the Arkansas River. Tradi-

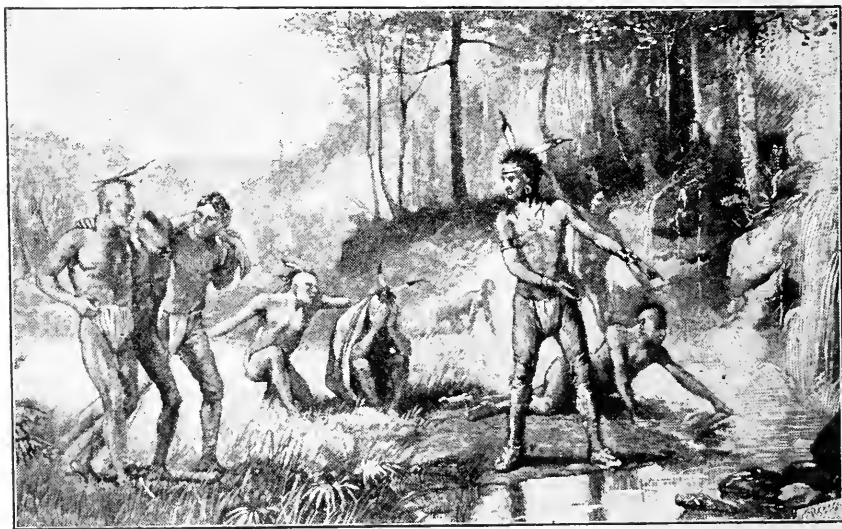


DE SOTO DISCOVERS THE MISSISSIPPI.

tion tells us that he was defeated in a great battle with the natives near where Jacksonport now stands, and that he was compelled to turn north. At any rate, he learned

here that mountains lay to the northwest. As gold was one of the great objects of his travels, he turned his steps toward what is now northwest Arkansas, hoping to find the precious metal there. For many days he traveled over swamps, through dense forests matted with vines, and across mountain streams.

Disappointed in not finding gold, he turned south, passed over the Boston Mountains, crossed the Arkansas River near Dardanelle (där'-dā-něl') Rock, and came into the land of the Cayas (cā'-yas). Here, we are told,



INDIANS AT THE HOT SPRINGS, TO BE HEALED.

de Soto fell seriously ill, and a friendly Indian chief brought him to a "lake of very hot water," where he was healed. At last, as he thought, he had found the won-

derful fountain. This lake was doubtless the now famous Hot Springs.

In the Ouachita (wäsh'-i-tä') River, near the springs, de Soto and his companions found salt. This the Indians along the stream sold to their neighbors. It was mixed with sand in the bed of the river, but the savages had devised a simple method for separating it from the sand. They gathered it up, sand and all, and threw it into baskets; under these, they placed vessels and then poured water into the baskets. The water filtered through the sand, carrying the salt with it into the vessels below. Then the vessels were put upon a fire, and the water evaporated, leaving the salt.



DE SOTO'S ROUTE THROUGH  
ARKANSAS.

The winter of 1541, de Soto spent in an Indian village on the Ouachita River. It was a severe winter; and his band, already reduced in numbers, suffered greatly.

Here it was that de Soto lost his faithful interpreter, Juan Ortiz (hoo-än' or-tēth'). When de Soto first arrived in Florida, he could not speak the Indian language, nor could the savages understand Spanish. Hence he needed an interpreter. Ortiz was a Spaniard who had come to Florida long before de Soto. He had joined a tribe of Indians, had adopted their dress and mode of living, and had learned to speak their language. So de Soto engaged him as his interpreter. Now that Ortiz was dead, de Soto had much trouble in dealing with the Indians.

Up to this time de Soto had found no gold; so, disheartened, in the spring he resumed his journey south. He followed the Ouachita to the Red River and then went down this stream to the Mississippi. On this journey he was greatly exposed and for days had to wade through swamps and swollen streams. These hardships brought on a fever, from which he died.

De Soto's followers were now without a leader. They knew that the Indians thought de Soto immortal. If they should learn of his death, they would lose their fear of the Spaniards and destroy them. So, secretly, at night, de Soto's companions prepared to bury him. On the shore of the Mississippi, they wrapped the body of their captain in a mantle, weighted it down with sand, and placed it in a boat. Very quietly they rowed out into the middle of the stream; and there, in the dark



and the silence of midnight, they lowered the body of Spain's great explorer into the waters of the river he had discovered.

De Soto's death completely demoralized his followers,



LOWERING DE SOTO'S BODY INTO THE RIVER.

and they at once determined to seek the Spanish settlements in Mexico. So they made some rude vessels, in which they passed down the Mississippi and finally reached Mexico—a small remnant of the proud company that had landed at Tampa Bay.

### Test Questions.

What led to the discovery and settlement of America? What part of our country was first explored and settled? In what direction did most of the explorers travel? Who first explored Arkansas? From what country did he come? What do you know of his life before he came to North America? What is meant by "the empire of the Incas"? To what part of North

America did de Soto first come? Why? In what year? Trace his travels for the next three years. In what century was this? What would have been de Soto's description of the region we call Arkansas? Of his travels through Arkansas? What is meant by "the land of the Cayas"? Where and how did the Indians get their salt? How did de Soto treat the Indians? What did they think about him? How did he talk with the Indians? What brought the expedition to an end? How did this occur? Where is de Soto's grave? What became of his followers? Of what use to the world was de Soto's expedition?

### Map Questions.

*Map showing Lands Discovered by Columbus*, p. 13, and *Map of Western Hemisphere*.—Locate Spain, Peru, Central America, Mexico, Cuba. *Map showing Route of de Soto*, p. 14, and *Map of United States*.—Locate Tampa Bay. Trace de Soto's journey overland. What states now occupy this region? *Map showing de Soto's Travels in Arkansas*, p. 17.—Trace the White River, the Red River, the St. Francis, the Arkansas, the Ouachita, the Mississippi. Locate Jacksonport, the Boston Mountains, Dardanelle Rock, the land of the Cayas, the Hot Springs.

## CHAPTER II.

### FATHER MARQUETTE.

1637-1675.

It was one hundred and thirty years after de Soto's death before another white man touched the soil of Arkansas. And yet the nations of Europe had not been idle. Each was struggling to get possession of as much of the New World as possible. But America is so large that it took centuries to colonize it.

Spain had weak settlements in Florida and Mexico; but the Spaniards spent too much time in hunting gold and silver to succeed in colonizing. They did not like the hard work of opening fields, cultivating the soil, and building towns. The English were more successful, because they had come to make the West their home and therefore could not afford to waste their time in gold hunting. They had established flourishing colonies along the Atlantic coast. Both Spain and England founded their colonies close to the sea. France too wished to own land in America, and she had already occupied Canada with fur-trading stations and missionary out-posts. The fur-trader had come to make his fortune;

the soldier, to extend the empire of his king; and the Jesuit missionary to plant the cross of Christ.

Spain had profited little by the explorations of de Soto. Through her negligence the Mississippi valley had remained unsettled for nearly a century and a half. She had gone to sleep, as it were, believing the land to be hers by right of discovery, and suddenly awoke to



MAKING A HOME IN THE NEW WORLD.

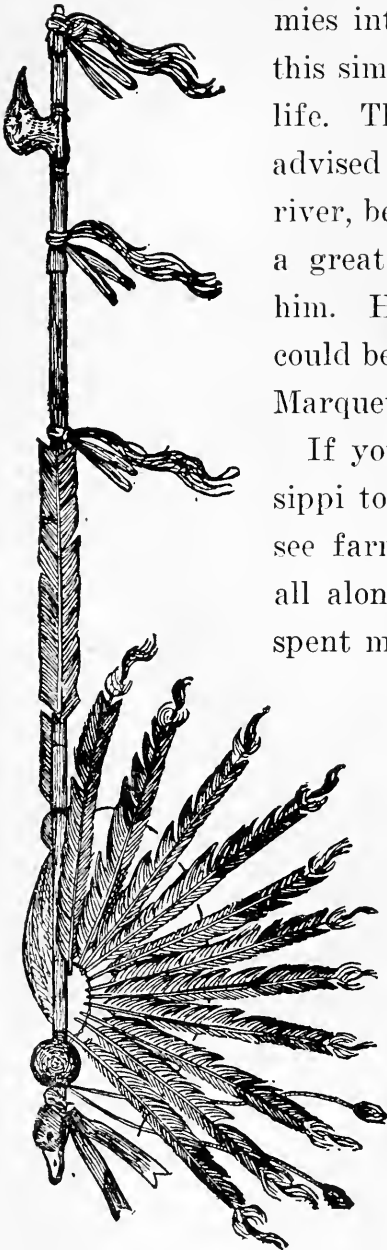
find France occupying the fertile valley. Then she struggled desperately to regain it, but all in vain. After securing the land bordering on the St. Lawrence River, France had seen the value of the Mississippi valley and had at once added that to her possessions.

Although several accounts of the travels of de Soto and his companions had been published, the French in

Canada, over one hundred years later, did not know whether the Mississippi empties into the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Pacific Ocean. The natives, however, had told the French of a mighty river to the west. But who would face the dangers of exploring it? None but the Christian missionary—a man quite different from the discoverer and explorer studied in the preceding chapter. The Christian missionary came to the New World neither for riches nor for glory, but to carry the gospel of peace to the red man in the western wilds. He left friends and a comfortable home in a civilized country and went among savages, preaching the Christian religion. Among the French missionaries, Father Marquette (mär-kět') was a prominent figure. He had been preaching to the savages around the Great Lakes, when he decided to find the mouth of the Mississippi River. He asked a fur-trader, named Joliet (zhō-lyā'), to go with him, and five Indians to paddle their canoes.

Over the Great Lakes they went and down whatever streams would bear them toward the Mississippi. But through the woods between the streams, they had to carry their canoes. At last they came to the great river, and in these same frail barks they floated down. On the way, some friendly Indians gave them a present—a calumet, the pipe of peace.

Now, everywhere among the Indians this pipe was the symbol of peace; and when held up it would change ene-



INDIAN PEACE-PIPE.

mies into friends. Later on perhaps this simple present saved Marquette's life. The Indians who gave it to him advised him to go no farther down the river, because, as they said, below was a great demon which would devour him. He would roar so loud that he could be heard miles away. However, Marquette continued his journey.

If you should go down the Mississippi today, on a steamer, you would see farms, mills, factories, and cities all along the banks. But Marquette spent many weary days in his canoe, on the silent river, seeing in the vast wilderness nothing but forests and stealthy wild animals, herds of buffalo, and roving bands of savages.

As the party approached the mouth of the Arkansas River, they saw wigwams on the west bank. Suddenly, out of the wigwams the Indians came rushing, giving their war-whoop. They had caught sight of the pale-

faces, as they called the white men. They ran down to the river, jumped into their canoes, and in a moment had surrounded Marquette and Joliet. At this juncture Marquette thought of his peace-pipe. He seized it and



MARQUETTE ENTERTAINED BY THE ARKANSAS INDIANS.

held it up, and in an instant a great change came over the savages. They threw down their tomahawks and invited the Frenchmen to come ashore, where they gave

them a hearty welcome to their wigwams. The tired travelers received with delight the hospitality of the Indians, who feasted them on mush and fish and gave them lodging for the night.

The next day they went on to the mouth of the Arkansas. Here they found a village of Arkansas Indians, by whom they were royally entertained. The warriors and the old men, seated in a semicircle, received them in the most approved Indian fashion. The men were scantily

clad, but their bodies were profusely decorated with beads and paints; the women were indifferently dressed in skins. Mush, boiled corn, and roasted dog made up the bill of fare with which they regaled their guests.

From these Indians, Marquette learned that the Mississippi empties into



MARQUETTE'S GRAVE AT ST. IGNACE,  
MICHIGAN.

the Gulf of Mexico. They advised him to go no farther, as the country below was inhabited by hostile tribes, through fear of whom they themselves



would not hunt the buffalo. There was no need of his taking further risks; for he had accomplished the object of his trip—he had learned into what body of water the Mississippi empties. So, after preaching to these simple people, he returned to Canada. About ten years later, while engaged in missionary work near Lake Michigan, he died.

Father Marquette was a man of strong will and gentle heart, beloved by all who knew him. So honored was he by the Indians that they were more friendly to the French settlers who followed in his footsteps down the Mississippi valley. By his bravery and perseverance he had opened a way for his countrymen into the new land, and by his labors of love he had won for them a welcome there.

### Test Questions.

How long was it after de Soto before another white man saw Arkansas? Why? Where had the Spaniards made settlements? the English? the French? How successful was each in colonizing, and why? Which gained control of the Mississippi valley? How?

Who was Marquette? Tell the story of his journey, its objects and results. Why is he called "father"? What is the calumet? What was the difference between Marquette and de Soto in their treatment of the Indians? How did the Indians treat Marquette? Why did he not go farther south? What was accomplished by the French missionaries in America?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Where is the Gulf of Mexico? Lake Michigan? the valley of the Mississippi? the mouth of the Arkansas River? On going by water from the source of the Mississippi River to its mouth, what rivers would you pass? *Map of Canada.*—Trace the St. Lawrence River.

## CHAPTER III.

### HENRI DE TONTI.

#### THE FATHER OF ARKANSAS.

1650-1704.

While Marquette was exploring the Mississippi, the young man who was to become the father of Arkansas was winning his spurs in the French army. He was an Italian by birth and a Frenchman by adoption. In the service of France, he had lost one hand and in its place wore a hand of iron. He was honest, brave, and chivalrous. These noble qualities gained for him the friendship of a powerful prince, who recommended him to La Salle (lä säl') as a suitable young man to aid him in his ambitious enterprises in the New World. This youth was Henri de Tonti (õñ-rě' dẽ tõn'-tē)—“de Tonti of the iron hand.”

It was in 1678, on a return trip from America, that La Salle was in France seeking men and means to carry out his plan of founding for France a new empire in the West. His greatest need was a strong, brave, loyal man who would be true in time of danger. Such a man he

found in de Tonti, and between these two there grew up a lasting friendship.

La Salle's plan was to build a line of forts and trading posts from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi, and then along this river to the Gulf of Mexico. These forts

were to serve as military posts for the protection of the French against the savages and as trading centers for those who bartered with them, giving beads and trinkets in exchange for furs and skins. But first, he must explore the country.

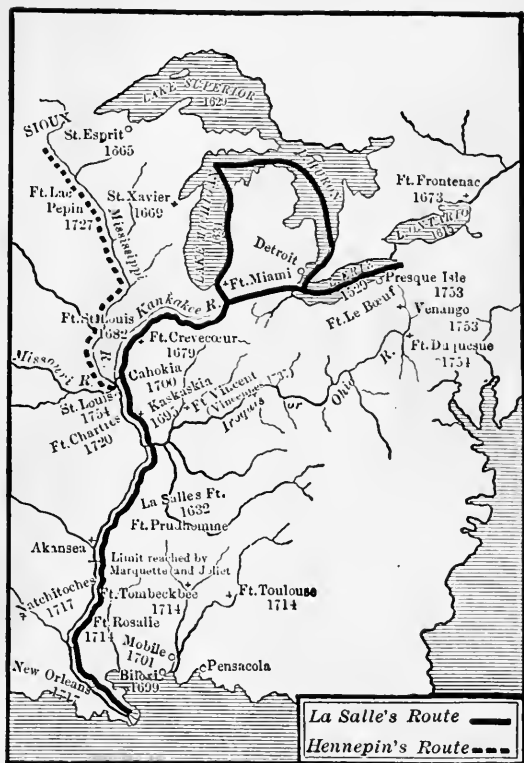


ROBERT CAVELIER DE LA  
SALLE.

De Tonti was the engineer of the party. He it was who built all the forts as well as the *Griffin*, a vessel of forty-five tons burden, on which La Salle sailed in exploring the Great Lakes. He built Fort Miami (mī-ām'-ī) near Fort Erie and a fort on the present site of Peoria, Illinois. It was at Peoria that the noble elements of de Tonti's character shone most brightly. La Salle left him in command of the fort at this place, while he returned to Canada on business. At this juncture, the men mutinied and deserted, leaving de Tonti with only four companions. But faithful to duty and to his

friend, he remained at his post. He sent two men to inform La Salle, and with the other two he prepared to hold the fort.

All around were Illinois Indians, who might become hostile at any moment. To add to the difficulties, at this time the Iroquois (ir-ō-kwoi'), a neighboring tribe, made war upon the Illinois; and the Illinois Indians, thinking that the French were inciting the Iroquois to this war, seized de Tonti, charged him with treachery, and drew their hatchets to kill him. In broken Illinois speech, he finally allayed their suspicions. Many a man would have given up and, if possible, would have made his escape back to Canada; but de Tonti



THE FRENCH FORTS FROM THE GREAT  
LAKES TO THE GULF OF MEXICO.

was heroic. He knew that war between the Indians would endanger the plans of La Salle; so, at the risk of

his life, he went over to the camp of the Iroquois to negotiate peace. While trying to persuade the Indians to give up their hostilities, he was stabbed, almost fatally; but he stood his ground and reminded the Indians of their alliance with France and of the danger of fighting the Illinois, who were under French protection. The savages threatened, but de Tonti refused all compromises and insisted on a genuine peace.

In spite of this, the Illinois distrusted him and destroyed his fort, leaving him in the midst of a severe northern winter without food or shelter. Although he had but one arm and was weakly constituted, he obtained food by digging roots and gathering acorns. Such was the endurance of the man who became the father of Arkansas.

The next year La Salle returned to Peoria. In the meantime, misfortunes had befallen him, and his creditors were calling for their money. His vessel, the *Griffin*, laden with skins for the market, had been lost on the Great Lakes; and, moreover, the same fate had befallen a vessel coming from France with supplies. These disasters had made La Salle a poor man. But though these brave men had lost everything, they were not discouraged. They merely changed their plans. Instead of exploring the Mississippi in a large vessel, they traveled down the river in canoes. Like Marquette, they stopped near the mouth of the Arkansas and were enter-

tained by the Indians in a most friendly manner. These children of the forest showed their visitors marked honor by dancing the calumet, an act of rare occurrence, performed only in celebrating a peace, or in concluding an alliance, or in entertaining distinguished guests. Both La Salle and de Tonti praised highly the good qualities of these Indians. The Indians gave La Salle the same advice that they had given Marquette nine years before—he should go no farther down the river. But he went on to the mouth of the Mississippi and claimed possession of the whole valley and all the land to the west of it in the name of Louis XIV, the King of France. This was in 1682.

Having accomplished the first part of their plan,—that of exploration,—they turned their attention to the second part—that of building a line of forts from the Great Lakes to the mouth of



LOUIS XIV, KING OF FRANCE.

the Mississippi. De Tonti built Fort St. Louis on the Illinois River and made treaties with the surrounding Indians; while La Salle returned to France to collect supplies and to get settlers for a colony at the mouth of the Mississippi and for proposed trading posts along its banks. He returned with four ships laden with men and

supplies. However, he missed the great river and landed in what is now Texas. Here he built a fort, which likewise he named St. Louis in honor of the French king. Discovering his mistake, La Salle started from Texas in an effort to find the Mississippi and to return to Canada. Hardly had he begun his search before he was killed by one of his own party. Thus perished La Salle, France's greatest explorer.



*From a painting by Miss Anne Hatley.*

ARKANSAS POST, THE FIRST WHITE SETTLEMENT IN THE  
LOUISIANA TERRITORY.

De Tonti, at the proper time, had left Fort St. Louis on the Illinois River and gone to the mouth of the Mis-



Mississippi to join La Salle. On his journey he met his old friends, the Arkansas Indians, who again entertained him. Not finding La Salle, de Tonti decided to honor these Arkansas friends by locating a fort in their midst. He directed six of his companions to build a log cabin and told them to "hold the fort." This was in 1686, an important date in our history. The post was on the Arkansas River, a few miles from its mouth. It was not only the first white settlement within the present boundaries of Arkansas, but also the first in the great Louisiana Territory. Thirteen years later, the second fort was established at Biloxi (bĭ-lŏk'-sĭ), in what is now the state of Mississippi. It was to this settlement that Bienville (byăñ-vĕl'), the first French governor of Louisiana, was sent.



BIENVILLE, GOVERNOR OF  
LOUISIANA.

Desiring to make the Arkansas settlement permanent, de Tonti, three years after founding it, remembered the

post in a substantial way. He made a grant of several thousand acres to the Church at that place and for three years, at his own expense, maintained a missionary. Besides performing his duties as a preacher, the missionary was to instruct the natives in agriculture.

De Tonti was a loyal friend. He had more than once risked his life for La Salle; and when he heard of his death, he fitted out an expedition to go to the rescue of the colony which La Salle had planted in Texas. With a small party he went down the Mississippi, up the Red River, and across Texas. He suffered greatly on this journey. For days he waded through water, often waist deep, and again and again was he forced to cut his way through thickets matted with vines, while constantly he was in danger of an attack by treacherous savages. Finally his own men deserted him, and he was compelled to return. Just as he reached the Post on the Arkansas River, he was stricken with malarial fever; and for weeks he lingered on the border of life and death, though carefully nursed by his old French and Indian friends.

The remainder of his life de Tonti spent keeping his forts in repair and making explorations. In 1700 he made his last journey down the Mississippi and finally went to Mobile, where he died in 1704. History has never done justice to this noble man, though he was appreciated by a few. La Salle had been loud in his

praise, and the French governors extolled his character and thought him capable of any enterprise. For him, when duty called or a friend was in need, no privation was too great, no suffering too severe, no danger too threatening. He served his adopted country without pay, and to her he was faithful to the end.

### Test Questions.

Who was Henri de Tonti? How did he happen to come to America? What was La Salle planning to do? How was he to do it? What was de Tonti's position in the expedition? In this position, what service did he render? Of the first part of La Salle's plan, what did the party accomplish? What hardships did de Tonti undergo? Of the second part of La Salle's plan, what did the party accomplish? Had any white men been down the river before? What was the Louisiana Territory? When and after whom was it named? What became of La Salle? Who was the first governor of the Louisiana Territory? What was the principal occupation of the French who came west? Compare this with the main business of the English colonists. To us what is the most important date in this chapter? Why? What kind of man was de Tonti? Give examples of his bravery. Why is he called the father of Arkansas? From these three chapters, what have you learned of the customs of the Indians?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Europe.*—Locate France, England. *Map of the United States.*—Where was the land of the Illinois Indians? the land of the Iroquois? Locate Fort Miami, Peoria, Fort St. Louis, Mobile, Biloxi, Texas, the Louisiana Territory, Arkansas Post.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE GREAT PURCHASE.

1803.

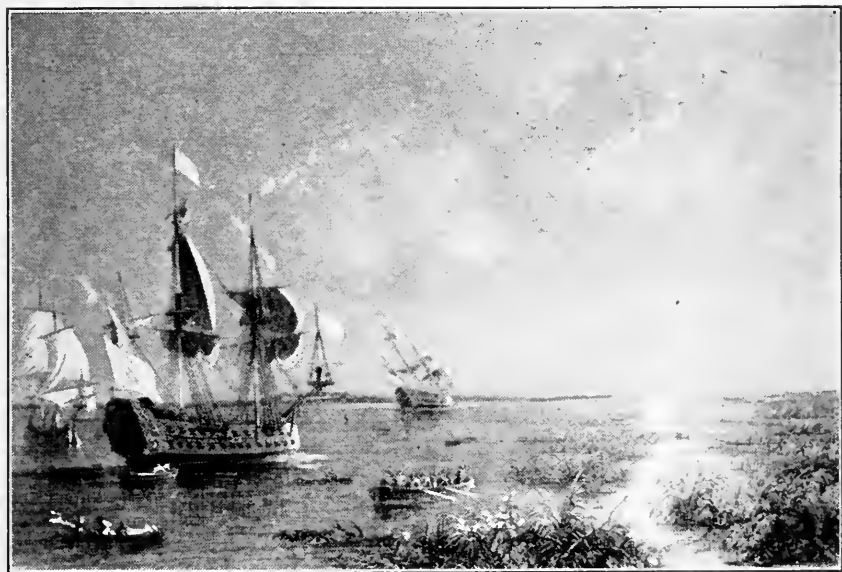
Prior to 1803, the Louisiana Territory was a ball tossed to and fro between France and Spain. France was the big boy who said when the ball should be tossed. The tossing was always done in secret, and every time it had its hidden purpose.

We have seen how de Soto, a Spaniard, first discovered the Mississippi, but how Spain was slow in taking advantage of the opportunities which her explorers pointed out; how France, a more vigorous nation, came forward and occupied the valley, in pursuance of the policy of La Salle; and how Marquette and La Salle explored the country and established posts along the river. Spain suffered a great loss when France took the Mississippi valley, but she had only herself to blame.

France, however, did but little better than Spain. She neither opened farms nor built cities, but contented herself by trading with the Indians. As a consequence, the few people that came into Louisiana, and especially into what is now Arkansas, were soldiers and traders. There

were no farmers and but few merchants. No permanent settlements were made except around military posts.

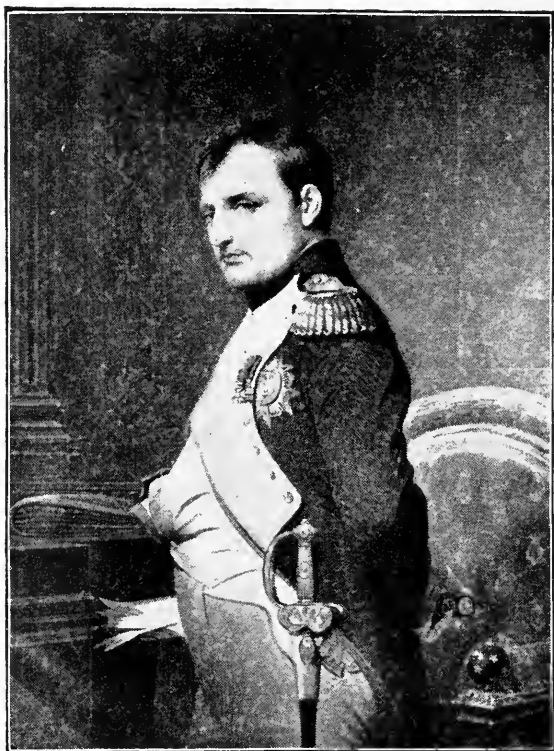
As has been mentioned, the first settlement in Arkansas was made by de Tonti, near the mouth of the Arkansas River at a place afterward called Arkansas Post. Frequently Canadians came into the country and re-



FRENCH FLEET ON THE LOUISIANA COAST.

mained for a year or two trading with the Indian tribes, the Osages (ō'-sāj-ēs) and the Quapaws (kwā'-paws), probably the same Indians that de Soto found in this region. For the purpose of trading with these Indians and because of the supposed wealth in the country, another settlement near the Arkansas Post was made by adventurers in 1718. But this was soon abandoned. As

a geographical division, Arkansas was known to the Spaniards, being mentioned in some old Spanish records of about 1780, as the "Parish of St. Arkansas," in the province of Louisiana. Its name was that of a tribe of Indians; and the first French explorers, hearing it, had



*From the painting by Delaroche.*

#### NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

spelled it after the method of their own language, *Arkansas*. In 1800, this Parish had a population of about four hundred. As a whole, the country remained a wilderness occupied by roving bands of savages. The result

was that the Louisiana Territory, extending from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains, made but little progress from the time of La Salle down to 1803. In the meantime, several changes in government took place.

By the famous treaty of Paris, in 1763, France, who had been badly defeated in a war with England, had to give away nearly all her American possessions. She ceded Louisiana to Spain, and all the territory east of the Mississippi River to her victorious enemy, England. But Spain was no more successful in developing Louisiana than France had been; for the territory remained a wilderness.

By 1800, the political situation in Europe had again changed. Napoleon, the greatest general of the age, was at the head of affairs in France. It was his ambition to regain Louisiana and to establish in America a great French power to offset the English power. With this in view, in 1800 he secretly made a treaty with Spain by which Louisiana again came into the possession of France. He left Spain in control while he privately made extensive preparations to build up in the New World a great French empire with New Orleans as the capital. Rumors of this scheme reached the United States and greatly alarmed the American people, especially the people of the West, who were ready to fight rather than to lose the use of the Mississippi River.

Besides, they did not want a French empire that might become hostile established just across the Mississippi. Indeed it was time for action.

The American people had already gained their independence from England (1783) and had established a republic. At the time that France acquired Louisi-



*Th. Jefferson*

ana, Thomas Jefferson was President of the United States. He at once saw the danger of Napoleon's scheme; and fearing that the United States might lose the right to carry commerce along the Mississippi River, he at

once directed Robert Livingston, our minister to France, to purchase New Orleans if possible. He also sent James Monroe, who was popular in France, to aid Mr. Livingston in the negotiations. President Jefferson in his letter to Mr. Livingston said: "There is on the globe one single spot, the possessor of which is our natural and habitual enemy. It is New Orleans, through which the products of three-eighths of our territory must pass to market."

At first, Napoleon would not listen to Mr. Livingston;



but suddenly, in 1803, in the midst of his preparations to occupy New Orleans, the great warrior changed his mind and said to Marbois (mär-bwä'), his secretary. "I renounce Louisiana. It is not only New Orleans I want to cede, but the entire colony without reserve. Open the subject this very day to Mr. Livingston." Why this change of mind? Was the great Napoleon frightened? No. War was about to break out between England and France. Now England was mistress of the ocean; she could easily drive France off the high seas. Napoleon knew that in the event of such a war, England would seize New Orleans; and he therefore wisely decided to sell the whole of the territory to the United States, the best purchaser.

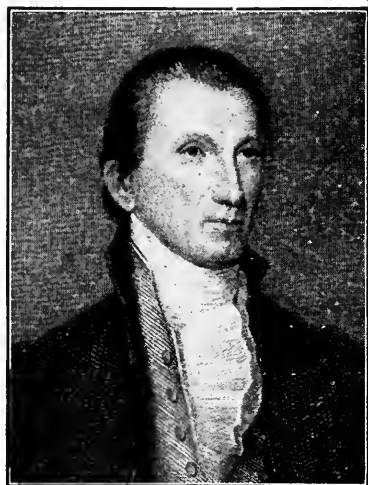


*Robert R. Livingston*

Monroe and Livingston were directed to buy New Orleans; but they had no power to purchase the whole of Louisiana. There were no cables then, and Napoleon would not wait for them to write home and get authority.

They therefore concluded to go beyond their instructions, and in a few days they signed a treaty for the purchase of the whole country. The United States promised to pay for the territory fifteen million dollars—less than three cents an acre.

Napoleon, after signing the treaty, said, "I have just



*James Monroe*

given to England a maritime rival that will sooner or later humble her pride." Nobler and more patriotic was the sentiment expressed by Livingston, when he laid down his pen. Speaking to Monroe, he said, "We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our whole lives. It will change vast solitudes into

flourishing districts. From this day the United States take their place among the powers of the first rank."

December 20th of the same year was fixed as the time for the transfer of the territory to the United States. On that day a French officer at New Orleans slowly lowered the French flag, while at the same time gradually rose the stars and stripes. Amid the shouts of the multitude and the boom of cannon, the United States took

possession of Louisiana. The territory that had changed hands so often had at last found a permanent owner. It was no longer to be subject to the whims of kings and princes thousands of miles away.



MAP SHOWING GROWTH OF THE UNITED STATES WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

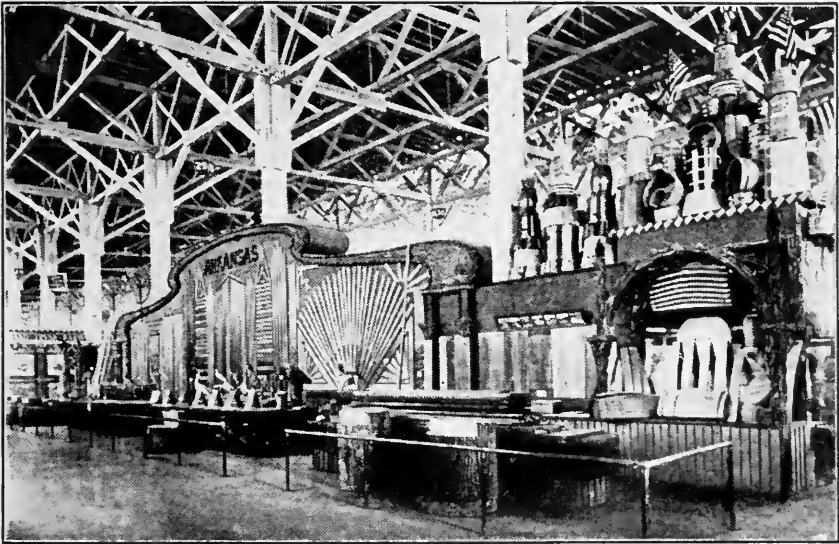
This purchase gave to the United States peaceful control of the Mississippi and of a vast territory of almost

boundless resources. Here her people might build happy homes and live undisturbed. To Louisiana it gave liberty and a republican government instead of tyranny or the misrule of a European king. Out of this territory have been carved twelve states and two territories. In 1803 it had a population of about fifty thousands; in 1903 it had a population of about fifteen millions. The people of this territory were largely French. But, although they preferred to remain under the French flag, they did not oppose the new government; for the United States assured the people that they would be protected in their life, property, and religion.

The population of Louisiana grew slowly during the French and the Spanish rule, because its government was not so organized as to attract settlers. Before a man could settle in the province, he had to secure permission from a foreign official. A citizen could not go twenty miles from his home unless he got a passport describing the road that he was to travel and the place that he was to visit. The English or American people east of the Mississippi did not like these restrictions and would not cross the river. But after the United States came into possession of Louisiana, the territory was settled rapidly by the Anglo-Saxon pioneer from east of the river. By 1819 there were fourteen thousand people in Arkansas alone.

During the French and the Spanish rule, Arkansas

had been a district in the province of Louisiana. An officer, called commandant (kõm-än-dänt'), was appointed to govern the district; and he resided at Arkansas Post. He had much power, as he was both judge and executive. From 1804 to 1812 Arkansas was a part of the territory of Louisiana; from 1812 to 1819 it formed one or more counties in the territory of Missouri, the



ARKANSAS TIMBER EXHIBIT AT THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION, ST. LOUIS, 1904.

present state of Louisiana having been admitted into the Union in 1812. There are now seventy-five counties in Arkansas; but in 1813 Arkansas was one county in the territory of Missouri. At that time she sent only one representative to the legislature, which met at St. Louis. By 1819 Arkansas had been divided into five counties;

namely, Arkansas, Lawrence, Pulaski, Clark, and Hempstead counties.

### Test Questions.

What countries had in turn claimed or owned the Louisiana Territory? State exactly how long it had been under the rule of each. What was the Treaty of Paris, and how did it affect this country? Who was the greatest man in France in the year 1800? Which of his ambitions concerned this country? How far did he carry out his plan? Describe the political divisions of America at that time. How was Napoleon's plan looked upon by the people of the United States? What did this country prepare to do? How did Napoleon receive our proposal, and why? Who was President of the United States at that time? Whom did he appoint to negotiate this purchase? What did Jefferson give as his reason for this purchase? What did Napoleon say after signing the treaty? Was this prophecy ever fulfilled? What did Livingston say of the treaty? What was the exact date on which the territory was transferred to the United States? With what ceremony was this done? What difference did this change of government make to the French settlers of the territory? Describe the development of the territory of Louisiana during the next hundred years. Why had it not developed more rapidly before? Describe the government of Arkansas during the first twenty years following the purchase.

### Map Questions.

*Map of Louisiana Purchase*, p. 45.—Bound the Louisiana Territory. *Map of the United States*.—Bound the present state of Arkansas; of Missouri; of Louisiana. What states now occupy the old territory of Louisiana? Locate New Orleans. *Map of Europe*.—Where is Paris?

## CHAPTER V.

### FREDERICK NOTREBE.

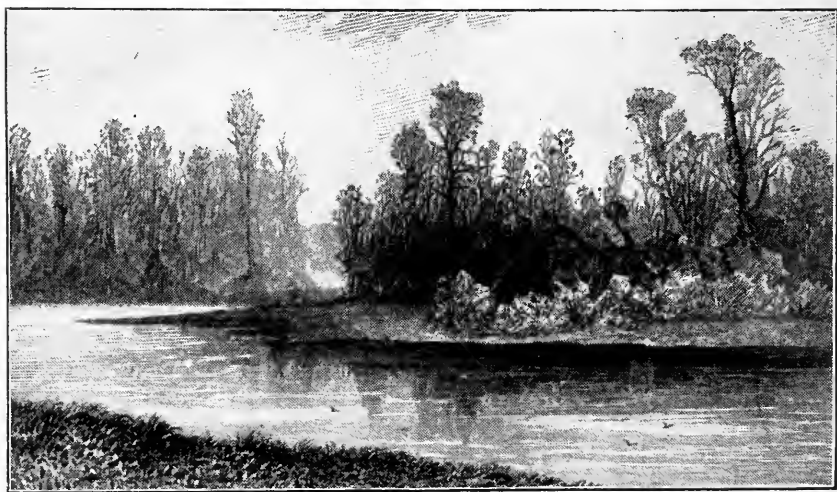
#### A TYPE OF THE OLD FRENCH SETTLER.

1775-1840 (?).

When the United States acquired Louisiana, the French were about the only people in Arkansas besides the Indians. There were not many of these Frenchmen; but they were a cultured, refined people, whose influence was wholesome. They intermarried with the American settlers who, after the purchase, pushed across the Mississippi from the older states; and their descendants have furnished some of the best families of the State. The impress of the French is seen in the names of our creeks, rivers, mountains, towns, and families. Fourche la Fave (foorsh lä fäv), Ouachita, Poteau (pö-tō'), Petit Jean (pě-tě' zhoñ), Des Arc (dā zärk), De Vall's (dě-vałz'), Bluff, Sevier (sě-vēr'), and Maumelle (mō-měl') are a few of the many names left to remind us of our obligations to them.

An interesting type of the French settler is Colonel Frederick Notrebe (nō-trēb'), who found his way to Ar-

kansas Post about 1810. He was a tall, handsome man, of commanding presence; and he possessed all the polish and refinement of the proud country in which he was born. He had despised the weak king of France and when the French Revolution broke out, had espoused the cause of the people. He had served with distinction as an officer under the great Napoleon and had rejoiced in the overthrow of the King and in the establishment of the Republic. But when, in turn, his chief



ALONG THE STREAM OF THE ARKANSAS.

overthrew the Republic and established for himself an empire, Notrebe was sorely grieved. Despairing of freedom at home, he turned his back on his native land, came to America, and settled on the Arkansas River. Here he had a large plantation which he cultivated with slave



labor. He was also a merchant and soon became a wealthy man. Open-handed and hospitable, he delighted in entertaining at his magnificent house the distinguished men of the Territory. He was far-famed for his princely hospitality of the approved old Southern style, and he was deservedly popular.

This generous Frenchman was a life-long friend of Alexander Walker, of whom we shall learn more in another chapter. On one occasion they had a misunderstanding, Mr. Walker having said something that the proud Frenchman considered an insult. Like all men

of his country, he was ready to defend his honor with his blood; so he challenged Mr. Walker to a duel. According to the code of our forefathers, dueling was about the only way to avenge an insult. Mr. Walker accepted the challenge, and early one morning the two men met. Mr. Walker was the first on the ground; and, seeing Colonel Notrebe approaching with a large party, he cried out, "Well, Frederick, if I



DRESS OF FREDERICK  
NOTREBE'S DAY.

had known that you were going to come with an army at your back, I would have come over during the night and thrown up breastworks." This created a laugh.

Friends intervened, and the difficulty was settled without bloodshed. The two men shook hands and ever after were true friends.

Mr. Walker is a type of the English settler, as Colonel Notrebe is of the French. The English differed from the French in many ways. They did not like close neighbors, so they pushed out into the wilderness. There they settled on rich lands and opened farms upon which they built log houses. The French, on the contrary, settled in villages. They laid off long, narrow streets and built their houses near one another. These were rude log houses with stick and dirt chimneys. Near the village was a common pasture to which they drove their cattle; also, a common woodland from which all the villagers got their fuel. Every family, however, had a separate field to cultivate. When at work, the men kept guns strapped to their backs. This was a necessary precaution against Indian treachery.

These people farmed, hunted, trapped, and traded with the natives. On trading expeditions, three or four would go together. Before starting they would load their boats with trinkets, hatchets, guns, powder, knives, blankets, and gay-colored handkerchiefs. Then they would row up the Arkansas or the White River. When they neared an Indian village, one of them would hold up the calumet, and the eager savages would soon bring out their skins and furs to exchange for the trinkets of

the Frenchmen. Sometimes the party would go overland on horseback and frequently these expeditions took a month or more. But the great market was at New Or-



FRENCH TRADERS NEARING AN INDIAN VILLAGE.

leans; so, as soon as they had gathered at the Post a supply of skins and furs, they would fit out boats for a trip down the Mississippi.

As these people were simple in their habits, they had but few wants. They dressed in buckskin and wore moccasins and coon-skin caps. Later on, however, sheep raising was introduced; and in each settler's home the wife and mother dyed and spun the wool. The thread

was woven into cloth called homespun, and this took the place of buckskin. This cloth was used far down into the last century, and even today it may be found in some of the interior counties of the State.

### Test Questions.

Describe the white settlers of Arkansas at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Do the French still people Arkansas? How does the population of any district change? What have we to remind us of the French? Who was Colonel Notrebe? In what did the French, as settlers, differ from the English? Describe a French village. What was the chief business of these people, and how did they carry it on? Describe their dress. What new industry was introduced, and how did it affect the life of the people? Are there any descendants of the early settlers in your neighborhood?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Trace the Fourche la Pave River; the Ouachita; the Poteau; the Petit Jean, Where is Des Arc? De Vall's Bluff? Maumelle Mountain?

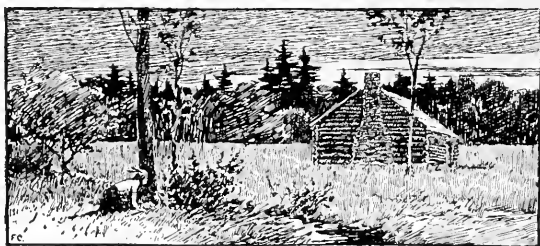
## CHAPTER VI.

### THE FIRST ARKANSAN.

When Marquette and de Tonti visited Arkansas, the territory was occupied by two great tribes of Indians—the Quapaws and the Osages. The Arkansas River separated them, the Quapaws living south, and the Osages, north of that stream. The Quapaws were known also by another name, Arkansas, which, as we have said, was early given by the French to the region around our largest river and to the river itself.

So the first Arkansan of history was the red man. He was copper-colored and had long, straight, jet-black hair, high cheek bones, a beardless face, and black eyes. He was swift-footed and quick-witted. He clothed himself in skins and furs in winter, but in summer went almost naked. He lived chiefly by fishing and hunting, spent most of his time in the open air, and knew the forest and its streams perfectly; he could hoot like an owl, bark like a wolf, and gobble like a turkey. He was a many-sided creature. His virtues were patience and fortitude; his vices, revengefulness, cruelty, cowardice, and treachery. He would never risk a fair or an honorable

battle, for he preferred to fall upon his enemy unawares in the dead of night.



INDIAN SPYING BEFORE THE ATTACK.

When Marquette and de Tonti found the Arkansas Indians, they were living in villages, usually on a river. Their houses were built of logs and covered with bark. Their beds were mats placed upon some rude contrivance to lift them above the dirt floor. Marquette in his journal tells us that these Quapaws raised each year two crops of corn, and they had a supply of peaches, apples, plums, and watermelons. Buffalo, deer, turkey, and bear abounded; but owing to the hostility of the tribes to the north, the Quapaws did not hunt buffalo beyond the Arkansas River.

These people had certainly taken some steps in civilization, for they had earthen pots, bowls, and dishes. Indian pottery has been found all along our rivers. It was made of clay intermixed with crushed shells and was either burnt or sun-dried.

Similar pottery, with tools and ornaments, has been found in mounds on our prairies. The pottery is un-

glazed and often painted; the tools and the ornaments are made of different metals and stones. As they show workmanship superior to that of the Indians, it is probable that another people lived here before the Indians. But these mound builders, as they are called, no white man ever saw; only the mounds that they left give evidence that they once existed. Some of the mounds near Toltce, about sixteen miles east of Little Rock, are



INDIAN POTTERY.

seventy-five feet high. They are flat on top, and several of them are enclosed by a levee ten feet high. Because the mound builder left no better record of himself, and no one ever wrote of having seen him, we call him a prehistoric man and still regard the Indian as the first Arkansan.

Marquette and de Tonti found the Indians in Arkansas peaceable, kind, and hospitable. The historian of La Salle's party, speaking of these Indians, says, "The whole village came down to the shore to meet us, except the women, who had run off. I cannot tell you the civil-

ity and kindness we received from these barbarians, who brought us poles to make huts, supplied us with fire-wood during the three days we were among them, and took turns in feasting us. But this gives no idea of the good qualities of these savages, who are gay, civil, and free-hearted. \* \* \* We did not lose the value of a pin while we were among them.''

On the other hand, de Soto found the Indians warlike, treacherous, and bloodthirsty; and he had constant trouble with them. This difference was due to the way the explorers treated the savages. Marquette and de Tonti were kind and considerate, but de Soto was cruel and treacherous.

Arkansas has indeed been fortunate in her dealings with the natives. Many of her sister states have suffered from the ravages of Indian wars; unsuspecting villages have been burned, the people tomahawked, and farms laid waste. But Arkansas has been practically free from such struggles. For this, perhaps, her thanks are due her first settlers, the French.

The French carried on friendly trade with the natives. They petted and flattered them, humored their whims and often married them. On the other hand, the English, in their dealings, were blunt, plain, and straightforward: They looked with contempt upon the Indians, as inferior beings. Therefore the Indians were usually allies of the French and enemies of the English.



Soon after the United States had purchased Louisiana, and settlers from the east had begun to make their homes in Arkansas, it was discovered that the red man was in the way of the white man. The red man wanted the land



MAP OF ARKANSAS SHOWING INDIAN LAND CESSIONS.

for hunting, and the white man wanted it for farming. Here was a conflict; and it would have given rise to war, had not tact been used to settle the difference. The

United States saw the danger and treated with the Indians—bought their lands and gave them lands farther west, in the Indian Territory.

Treaties were made with the Osages in 1808 and in 1818, and with the Quapaws in 1818 and in 1824, by which they gave up all claims to lands in Arkansas. The names of the Quapaw chiefs through whom the United States made these treaties were “Dry Man,” “Eagle’s Bill,” and “Tame Buffalo.”

In 1817 the United States ceded to the Cherokees territory in northwest Arkansas in exchange for land owned by them east of the Mississippi; but this was not satisfactory to Arkansas, and in 1828 the Cherokees were given land in the Indian Territory in exchange for their Arkansas land. The Choctaws also once had their home in the western part of Arkansas. They were allowed to remain only five years, and in 1825 they too gave up their possessions there for land in the Indian Territory.

Although so many Indians on their way to the Indian Territory have made Arkansas a stopping-place, they have given her almost no trouble; and her dealings with them, as well as those of the United States, have been honorable and peaceable.

The story of the red man is a sorrowful one. His best lands have been taken from him, and by degrees he has been pushed back by the white man. He is gradually disappearing, and it is only a question of time when he

will become extinct. The Indian clearly realizes this. Many pathetic stories are told showing his sorrow over the loss of his happy hunting-grounds, and over the disappearance of his people. In Arkansas history is this touching anecdote of the old chief, Saracen:

Saracen was chief of those Quapaw Indians who, in



SARACEN RESCUING THE STOLEN CHILDREN.

1824, gave up their land in south Arkansas and moved to the Indian Territory. After a time he left them and came back to Arkansas; for he had been sad away from the land of his fathers. He asked Governor Pope for permission to pass the last days of his life at his home near Pine Bluff. The Governor assured him that no

one would trouble him if he wished to return, and Saracen was grateful for this kindness. The old settlers of Pine Bluff welcomed him back, for he had always been a good friend and neighbor.

Soon after his return a roving band of Chickasaw Indians stole two children of a fisherman near Pine Bluff. The weeping mother besought Saracen to rescue her children, and he promised to do so. Alone, after night-fall, he overtook the marauding band near Arkansas Post. Waiting till they were asleep, he gave the war-whoop, and with tomahawk uplifted sprang upon the unsuspecting savages, and frightened them away. Then he rescued the children, and returned them at once to their mother. For this and other noble deeds, the Roman Catholics placed in their church at Pine Bluff a memorial window in honor of Saracen.

### Test Questions.

What Indians occupied Arkansas when Marquette visited it? What is the origin of the name of our State? Describe the first Arkansan; give his characteristics, his food, and his manner of life and dress. What evidences are there that the Indian was not really the first Arkansan? Then why may we give the Indian this name? What do we call the mound builders?

Explain why the Indians treated Marquette and de Tonti differently from the way they treated de Soto. Why has Arkansas been so free from Indian warfare? Why has the Indian usually been a friend of the French and an enemy to the English? Why were the Indians removed from Arkansas? When? How? Tell the story of Saracen.

### Map Questions.

*Map of Indian Cessions*, p. 59.—Trace on the map the territory first occupied by the Quapaws; by the Osages. Point out on the map the land acquired from the Quapaws in 1818; in 1824; from the Osages in 1808; in 1818. What territory was ceded to the Cherokees in 1817? Point to all the land open to the white man in 1828. Trace the Choctaw cession of 1825. Where are these Indians now?

*Map of Arkansas*.—Locate Pine Bluff.

## CHAPTER VII.

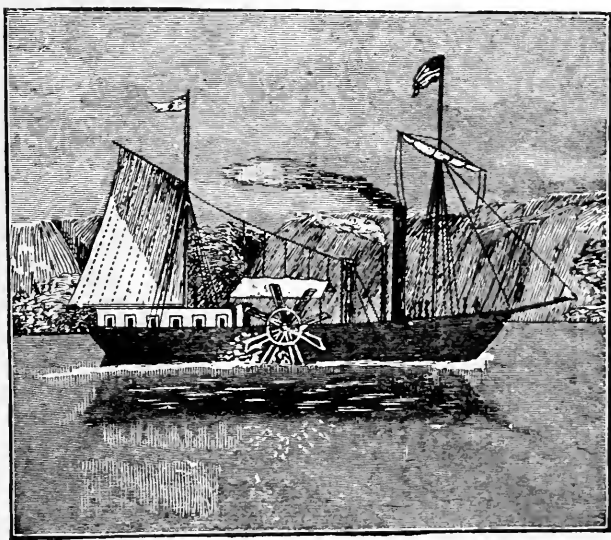
### THE PIONEER BOATMAN.

1800-1835.

Though Saracen was kind and noble, the Indians as a rule were treacherous; and the white man had to be constantly on his guard against them. To the terror of the pioneer boatmen, they lurked along the river banks, concealing themselves behind trees or in cane-brakes. At the report of the signal gun—for the Indians now used fire-arms bought or captured from the white men,—they would make a general attack. Howling fiercely, they would rush to the bank, shoot the poor men who steered the boat, and then attempt to seize the vessel. A fight, lasting for hours, often ensued, the Indians following along the bank and shooting at the men on board. Since the boatmen also were skilled marksmen, the savages could overcome them only with overpowering numbers or by treachery; and they often did by cunning what they failed to do by open assault. Frequently one would come to the bank, hail the captain, and ask to be taken on board. Then, when the boat neared the bank, other Indians who lay concealed near by, would shoot

the boatmen and seize the boat. But these tricks the boatmen soon learned and frustrated.

Navigation in those days was quite different from what it is now. Should you make a trip on an ocean steamer today, you would find it elegantly furnished and supplied with every convenience. Your ticket would entitle you to all its comforts—its excellent meals, desirable berths, and attractive parlors. A big steamer will carry about three thousand passengers, or as many people as live in towns such as Conway or Searcy. A great merchant-steamer will carry over twenty-five thousand tons

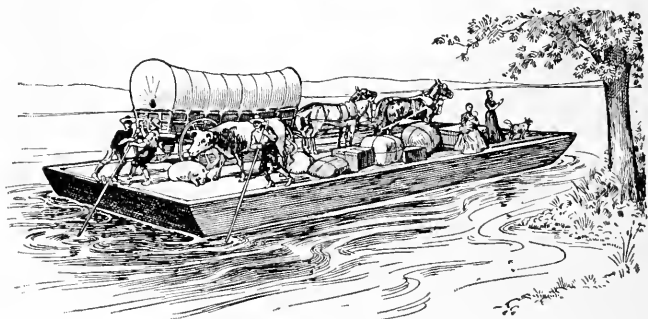


FULTON'S STEAMBOAT, "THE CLERMONT."

of freight. Steamships do a large part of the carrying trade of the world. The oceans, the Great Lakes, and the large rivers are covered with them.

But it has not always been thus; for it was less than a century ago that Robert Fulton invented the steamboat. Only about 1835 did steamers come into general use on the Mississippi, the Arkansas, and the Missouri rivers, which till that time were navigated with the raft, the flatboat, and the keel-boat.

In the eighteenth century but few people lived in the Mississippi valley; consequently there was not traffic enough to justify a man's devoting his time to boating. No boats ran regularly up and down the river. If a pioneer, living up the valley, wished to market his products, he himself had to carry them down the river in a flatboat or on a raft. But the first thirty years of the



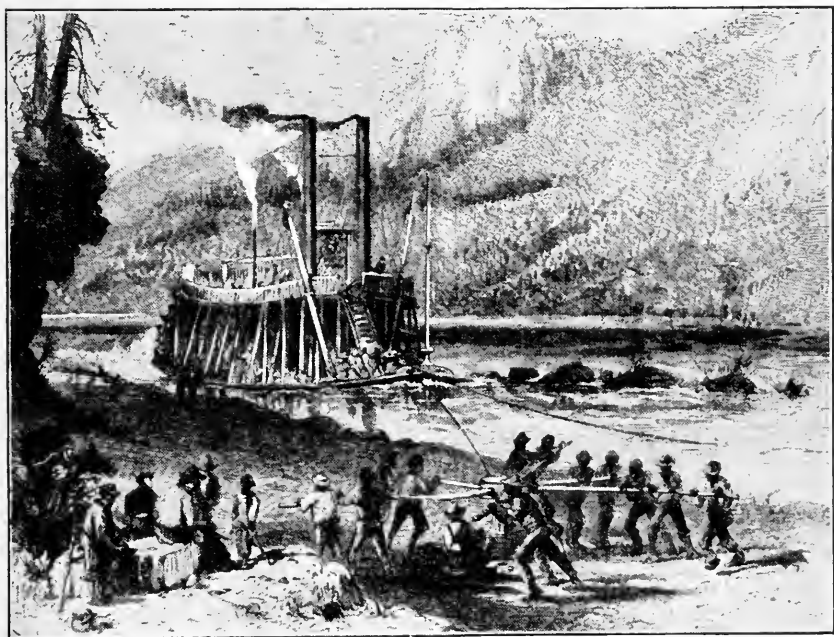
PIONEERS TRAVELING BY FLATBOAT.

nineteenth century developed a special class of boatmen to operate these vessels. They made a business of plying between New Orleans and points along the Mississippi River and its branches.

There was little difficulty in going down stream, as the raft simply floated with the current. But going up



stream—there was the rub. Sometimes the boat was “cordelled,” as the boatmen said, up stream. The men fastened long ropes to each side of the boat or raft, and then taking the other ends, they walked along the banks just ahead of the vessel and pulled it up stream. Sometimes the ropes were fastened to trees ahead, and the men



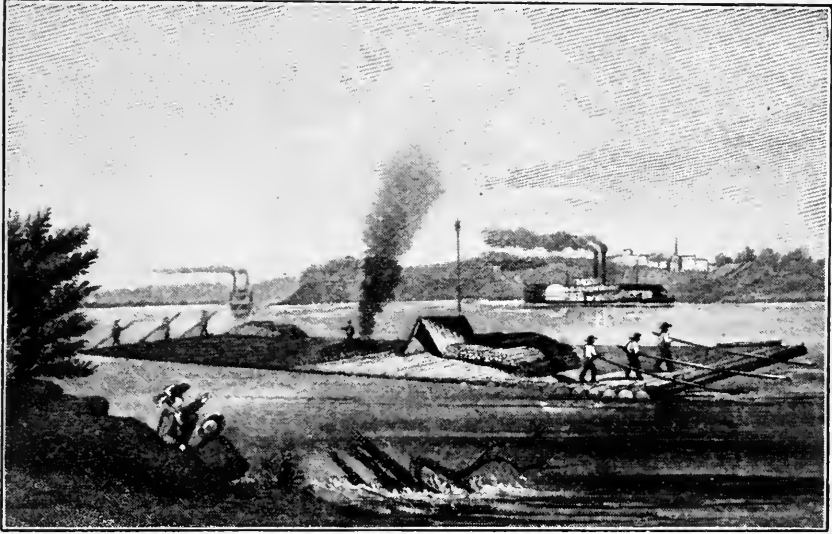
CORDELLING A STEAMER UP-STREAM.

on board would propel the vessel by pulling the ropes. When the river was not too swift, the boat could be pushed along by means of poles. This was hard work, and it took about fifty men to impel a keel-boat up stream.

Traveling in those days was necessarily slow, and a trip from Little Rock to New Orleans consumed as much time as a voyage to Japan in these modern days. A keel, leaving Cincinnati in the spring for New Orleans, would return in the fall. Merchants bought their sugar and molasses in New Orleans and their drygoods and hardware in Philadelphia or New York. It took several months for goods to come from New York to Arkansas. They were brought in wagons as far as Pittsburg, there loaded on vessels and taken down the Ohio River to the Mississippi, thence to the mouth of the Arkansas, and up this stream to the point nearest the place of destination. This method continued a long time, for Arkansas had been a state many years before railroads were built.

The boatmen of the early days had to be strong, brave, rough-and-ready men, ready to undergo all hardships and to face any danger. Some of them became noted for their noble deeds and daring adventures. They endured alike the blasts of winter and the heat of summer. Indeed, robbers and storms were the more common sources of danger. Men made it a business to lie in wait for these boats and to rob them as they were towed up stream. The robbers lived in caves or near the mouth of creeks emptying into the Mississippi. As soon as a band of them discovered a boat going up or down the river, they prepared for an attack. When it was opposite them, they dashed out from their hiding places, perhaps shot

one or two of the men, and boarded the vessel. In a short time they had its rich cargo stored away in their hut or cave near by.



POLING A RAFT ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

But Indians and robbers were not so much feared by the rivermen as were storms. One of our early boatmen, Captain David Miller, once encountered a memorable storm on the Mississippi. He was making a trip south on his vessel, the *Reindeer*, with a large cargo for points along the Arkansas and the White River. Among his passengers were Governor Pope of Arkansas and his nephew.

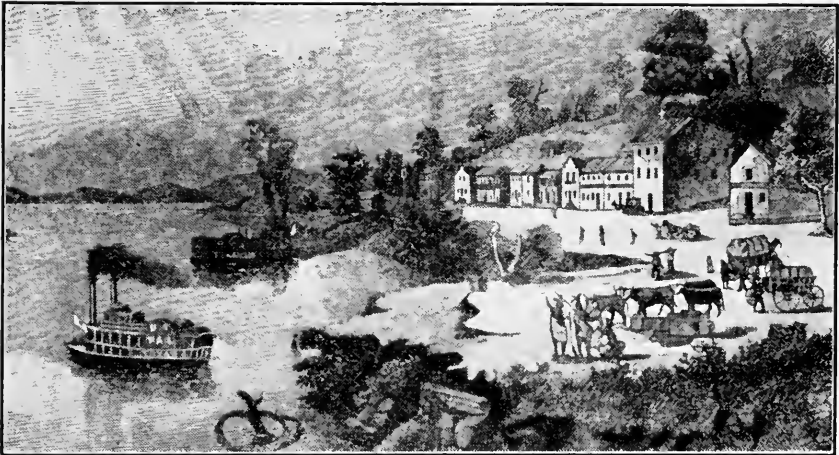
One night they were struck by a storm, of which Governor Pope's nephew gives this account: "About ten o'clock that night, while sitting with Captain Miller on

the hurricane deck, just in front of the pilot-house, listening to him relate some of the stirring events of his life on the river, we heard low, distant thunder, which came nearer and nearer. The day had been excessively hot and sultry. Captain Miller remarked that we were likely to have a storm. \* \* \* As soon as the captain became fully satisfied of the danger that was about to overtake us, he directed the pilot to land; and the boat was headed for a high bluff on the Missouri side, where she was made fast, both bow and stern, with heavy cables. The task was hardly accomplished when the storm struck us in all its fury, and the enormous hempen cables in which we reposed so much confidence parted like silken threads, and the boat was blown out into mid-stream \* \* \* without steam and at the mercy of the furious storm. By good management on the part of the officers, the boat was swung around and headed up stream. We were then struck by a counter blast which careened the boat so that water ran over the lower guards and into the gentlemen's cabin. \* \* \* The total destruction of the boat and the consequent loss of life was only averted by the fact that the steamer had a heavily laden barge lashed to her starboard side, which prevented her from going entirely over with the wind that struck her on the lee side."

David Miller was a brave, true man, and a great captain. He did an extensive business on the Arkansas and

White rivers. Until the steamer came into use, he plied a keel-boat on the Mississippi. He boated so long that everybody on his route knew Captain Miller, and he knew every point from New Orleans to Cincinnati. He was partner with his father-in-law, Mr. Montgomery, in a large mercantile establishment at Montgomery Point on the Mississippi, near the mouth of the Arkansas. Soon after the storm described above, Captain Miller died of smallpox.

Another early boatman noted in Arkansas was Captain Pennywit. He came from Virginia early in the century and ran a keel-boat between New Orleans and Cincin-



*From an old print.*

#### THE LANDING AT VAN BUREN.

nati. He built the first steamboat ever constructed at the latter place and named it *Cincinnati*. He was in the boating business until 1847, when he became a merchant

at Van Buren. Captain Pennywit died in Little Rock in 1868. His steamer, the *Facility*, made its first voyage up the Arkansas in 1828. The first steamboat to come to Arkansas Post was the *Comet*, in 1820; the first to reach Little Rock was the *Eagle*, in 1822.

In 1829 Captain Pennywit made a round trip by steamer from Little Rock to New Orleans in twenty days. This was considered a great triumph. In 1829 our congressman, Mr. A. H. Sevier, made the trip from Little Rock to Washington, mostly by steamer, in nineteen days; and the Washington papers of that time thought it a remarkably quick trip.

### Test Questions.

Describe the life of the pioneer boatmen; its dangers and hardships; the methods of operating boats. By whom was the steamboat invented? When? Compare travel on a modern steamer with that on a western keel-boat a century ago. By what route did merchants at Washington or Fayetteville, Arkansas, get their goods seventy-five years ago? How do they get them today?

Name two well-known river captains. For what was each especially noted? When did the steamer first appear on the Arkansas? When did it come into general use on the Mississippi?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Fayetteville, Conway, Searcy. *Map of the United States.*—Locate Cincinnati, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, New York, Washington City.

Trace the river-route from Pittsburg to Little Rock, naming the states through which or between which the rivers flow.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### FRONTIER LIFE.

1800-1836.

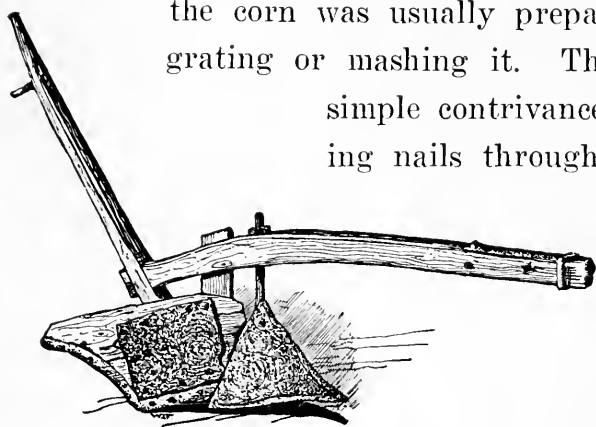
Most of the French pioneers to Arkansas came from Canada and what is now the state of Louisiana, while our Anglo-Saxon ancestors came from the older states east of the Mississippi. The latter came after 1800 and were a sturdy, honest, thrifty people. As you know, they did not like close neighbors; so, when the older states became thickly settled, they went west. From Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri, where their fathers before them had been pioneers, they pushed into the wilds of Arkansas.

They found Arkansas a wilderness, where they had to brave dangers from savages and wild beasts and to endure all the hardships and privations of frontier life. They felled the forests, opened and cultivated fields, built their log cabins, and here and there established settlements. At first, they cultivated their ground with a plow fashioned from a forked sapling. One of its prongs was cut off a foot above the fork, was sharpened and used as the plow. The other prong served as a beam

to which were attached the handles. This homely device was used until some time later when it was replaced by the bulltongue plow. The chief crop of these pioneers was corn.

The grist-mills of our fathers were few in number, being often seventy-five or one hundred miles apart; so

the corn was usually prepared at home by grating or mashing it. The grater was a simple contrivance, made by driving



AN OLD-TIME PLOW.

nails through a piece of tin, which was then fastened, rough side out, to a convex board. With one end of the board in a wooden tray

and the other between the knees, the pioneer would rub the corn over the rough surface, cutting it into fine particles. Some people still prefer meal prepared in this way, as it has a richer flavor. The mortar was made by digging out a hole in one end of a large block. Into this cavity the corn was poured and then mashed with a pestle made to fit the hole.

Often, instead of grating or mashing the corn, the pioneer farmers made it into "lye hominy." This took the

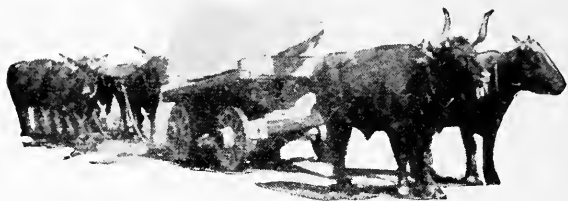


place of bread, and with hog's meat was the chief food of many families. Game also was plentiful. General Wilkinson, who, in 1806, explored the Arkansas River from its source to its mouth, said that there were buffalo, elk, and deer enough on that river to support all the Indians in the United States for a century.

Our fathers were bold hunters and delighted in adventure. They were so much attached to the free life of the frontier that they would have rebelled against the restraints of older communities. They did not regard it a special hardship that they had no roads or that the post-office was fifty miles away. They had neither stagecoaches nor steamboats; but they were content with keel-boats and ox-wagons. Though they had but few comforts, life to them was neither dull nor monotonous. They were jolly and happy; and the young people had many diversions, the chief one being dancing.

Some had religious scruples about dancing, as their "parson" said it was wrong; but to the majority, the news of a dance gave genuine pleasure. For weeks, it was the center of interest. For it alone, they talked and planned. Their hearts were all a-flutter for days in advance. At the appointed time, people came from far and near—some walking, some on horseback, and others in ox-wagons. They were a jolly, rollicking crowd. The hero of the occasion was the fiddler, whose fame was wide-spread. When he began to pat his foot vigorously,

they knew that he was ready. He would pick the strings, —toom, toom,—and saw away, head, hands, and feet



OX-WAGONS OF THE SOUTHWEST.

moving together, then, tune and tighten the strings, and saw again. Occasionally his voice would sound above such airs as “Run Nigger Run,” “Fisher’s Hornpipe,” “Great Big Tree in the Sandy Land,” and “Old Dan Tucker.”

In 1813 the legislature of the territory of Missouri formed a number of counties. By this act, practically all of the present state of Arkansas was made one county to be known by the name of Arkansas County; and Arkansas Post was made its county seat. This county was given one representative in the territorial legislature, which met at St. Louis, the capital.

Our first representative and law-maker was Colonel Alexander Walker, the friend of Colonel Notrebe, and one of the first Anglo-Saxon settlers at Arkansas Post. This quaint old man found all things beautiful except “whistlin’ women, crowin’ hens, fiddlers, fire-dogs, and pop-corn.” He had many good qualities and was much esteemed by his neighbors, who elected him their first

representative in the legislature. Being accustomed to hardships, he did not mind his trip on horseback from Arkansas Post to St. Louis; though, as there were no roads, he had to follow Indian trails, mere bridle paths.

Colonel Walker made his home at the Post until 1819, when Arkansas was organized as a territory, and the capital was moved to Little Rock. Then Mr. Walker moved to a farm not far from the new capital, but on the opposite side

of the river. His nearest neighbor, Mr. Rorer, lived two miles away. Mr. Rorer was one of that shiftless, harmless, easy-going class of people always to be found on the borderland of civilization. On one occasion he borrowed Mr. Walker's ox-yoke. True to the characteristics of his class, he failed to return it.



MR. RORER CARRYING HOME THE  
OX-YOKE.

When Mr. Walker sent him word to bring it home, he replied, "Tell him to come after it if he wants it."

Whereupon the Colonel determined to teach his neighbor a lesson.

Shouldering his gun, he walked over to his neighbor's house and called for him. Without further persuasion, the yoke was carried home. It was a hot July day, and his burden was heavy. When they reached the Colonel's door, Mr. Rorer, hot and tired, threw the yoke down. Mr. Walker asked him if that was where he had found it. When he replied that it was not, he was compelled to pick it up and carry it to the place from which he had taken it. Then Mr. Walker invited him in, kindly gave him a cool drink from the north side of the well, and talked pleasantly about neighborhood affairs. When Mr. Rorer arose to start home, Colonel Walker said, "Mr. Rorer, you are welcome to my ox-yoke whenever you want it; but when I ask for its return, I expect you to send it home immediately."

You see that Mr. Walker not only made laws but executed them. So it was with most of the early settlers. They were their own judges and sheriffs, a law unto themselves. They did what they thought was right and compelled others to do the same, wishing no officers to meddle in their affairs. And so they lived until the United States organized the territorial government in 1819.

### Test Questions.

What was the difference between the immigrants to Arkansas before and after 1800? Whence did most of the Anglo-Saxon settlers come? The French settlers? Compare the French and Anglo-Saxon settlements. Describe the methods used by our grandparents in plowing; in grinding corn. How was hominy prepared? What wild animals were here? Describe the old time dance.

In 1812, of what Territory was Arkansas a part? In 1813? How was Arkansas organized in 1813? What was the capital of Missouri? the county seat of Arkansas? Who was our first legislator? Tell the story of the ox-yoke. Of what class was Mr. Rorer a type? Colonel Walker? What condition in the early life of Arkansas does this story illustrate?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—How far is it from the mouth of the Arkansas River to St. Louis? How would you go from Little Rock to St. Louis?

## CHAPTER IX.

### ROBERT CRITTENDEN.

ARKANSAS' FIRST GREAT STATESMAN.

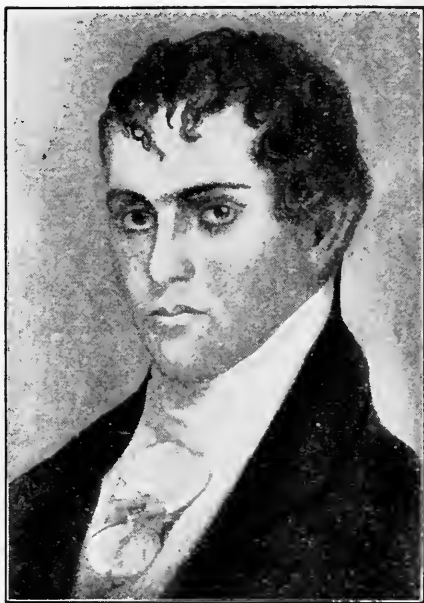
1797-1834.

In our country there are two kinds of government: the federal government at Washington, which regulates in a general way the affairs of the whole United States; and the government in each state or territory, which manages its local affairs. The government of the state is created by the people of the state and is managed by officers elected by citizens of the state. The territorial government is established by the federal government and is managed largely by officers appointed by the President of the United States.

In 1819, by an act of Congress, Arkansas was made into a territory. In carrying out the provision of this act, President Monroe appointed Robert Crittenden secretary of the new Territory. He was only twenty-two years old; but he had already distinguished himself by serving in the War of 1812, between the United States and Great Britain, having enlisted at the age of sixteen.

When the army of the United States invaded Canada, he was among the gallant men who fought at Lundy's Lane. His father had served with distinction in the Revolutionary War, reaching the rank of major.

Like most young men of the day, he had but few educational advantages. After the war, he studied law in the office of his brother. As we have said, his gifts were recognized by President Monroe, who sent him as territorial secretary to Arkansas Post, the temporary capital of the Territory. Though the Post was over one hundred years old, it was still a mere village of about one hundred people. Mr. Crittenden was called upon to fill an important office, as he was not only secretary but acting governor in the absence of that official. As the newly appointed territorial governor, Colonel James Miller, did not arrive till several months later, the duties of that office at once devolved upon Mr. Crittenden.



ROBERT CRITTENDEN.

His first act was to convene the legislature. This was

indeed a peculiar legislature. Today our legislature has two houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives; and each house has many members. But the first legislature of Arkansas had only one house, and, what is still stranger, that house had only four members; Robert Crittenden, Andrew Scott, Charles Jouett, and Robert P. Letcher. Mr. Crittenden was the acting governor, and the other three were the judges of the Superior Court of the Territory. All these officials were appointed by the President of the United States. In this first legislature the people had no voice at all, as they have today. This was the way a territory of the first grade was governed.

Mr. Crittenden was not in office long before he declared Arkansas a territory of the second grade. Let us see how a territory of this grade is governed. It has a legislature of two houses; the lower house is elected by the people, while the upper house is appointed by the President of the United States, from a list of names presented to him by the lower house. The governor, the secretary, and the judges of the Superior Court, however, are appointed by the President, whether the territory is one of the first or of the second grade.

The first legislature was in session only seven days, but in that time it provided Arkansas with a full set of laws. This was done by passing one law which provided that all the laws in use in Missouri should likewise be used in Arkansas. At this session the Territory was



divided into two circuits for the administration of justice; and the offices of auditor and treasurer, at a salary of three hundred dollars each, were created.

Now came the important work of organizing the government and of putting the laws into operation. It was in this connection that Mr. Crittenden rendered Arkansas a great service. Many difficulties confronted him—



PIONEER MAIL-CARRIER CROSSING THE PLAIN.

no roads, no money in the treasury, and only two post-offices in the Territory. Besides, the Quapaw Indians occupied much of the Territory, and great skill in managing them was necessary in order to prevent trouble between them and the whites. It was well that Mr. Crittenden brought to this work of organization a strong

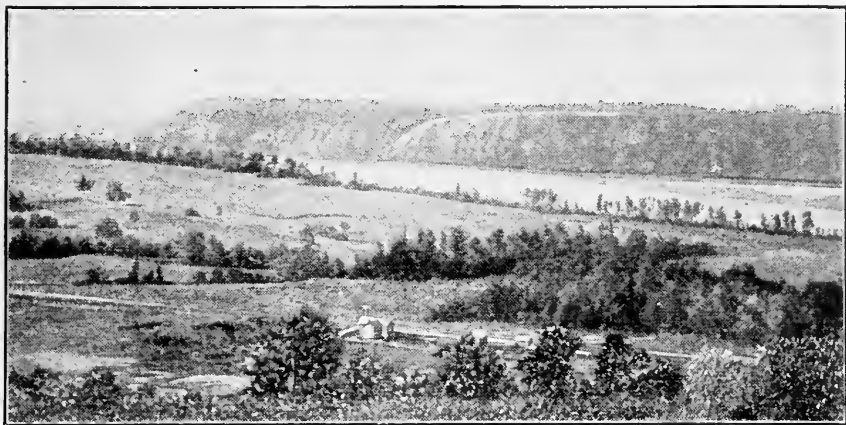
body, a vigorous mind, and great energy. He appointed officers for the counties, organized a local and a central government for the Territory, and set things in motion before Governor Miller arrived.

The second legislature convened the following year at Arkansas Post. Its most important measure was the removal of the capital to Little Rock. Since the members from the extreme northwest of Arkansas could not reach Arkansas Post in less than two weeks of hard and dangerous travel, they insisted on a more central location for the capital. Robert Crittenden, Henry Conway, and others encouraged the movement, claiming that the present site of Little Rock was the most suitable place in the Territory for its capital.

There was no capitol building at Arkansas Post; so little trouble was experienced in securing the passage of the bill to remove the government to Little Rock. The new site contained scarcely a building; but as it was near the center of the Territory and on the Arkansas River, it gave promise of becoming a business as well as a political center. A ledge of rocks projected into the river at this point, and the place was named Little Rock, to distinguish it from Big Rock, a larger cliff two or three miles up the river. This was in 1820, and very soon a thriving village sprang up at the capital.

For ten years Mr. Crittenden faithfully served the Territory as secretary, being much of the time also act-

ing governor. The fact is, he was the greatest power in the government of Arkansas during the first ten years of her history. In 1829, he retired from office and began the practice of law. He was a brilliant lawyer, and his

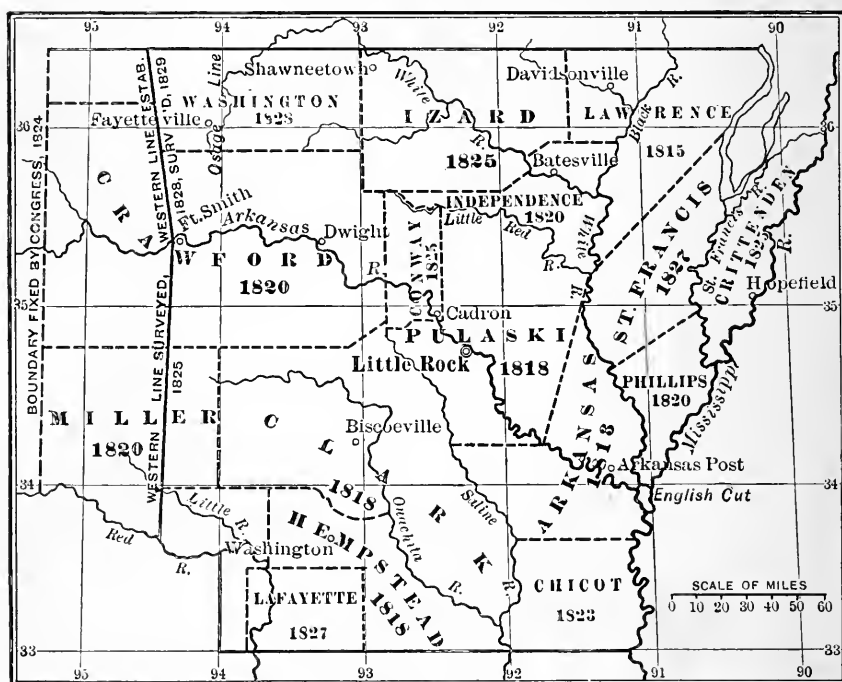


BIG ROCK AND FORT ROOTS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE  
ARKANSAS RIVER.

fame extended far beyond the borders of the Territory. He was often employed in important cases in other states.

It was in 1834, while Mr. Crittenden was arguing a case in Vicksburg, Mississippi, that death struck him down, still in the prime of life, only thirty-seven years old. He had just finished one of his most eloquent and masterful arguments of seven 'hours' length and had sat down exhausted, when the judge called upon him to state again his authorities. But he could not speak. He attempted to rise, staggered, and fell. In the arms of

brothers at the bar he was borne out of the court-room to his hotel. There, far from wife and family, this first great statesman of Arkansas passed away. His was an untimely death. He was cut off in the midst of great labors, while a brilliant future lay before him.



ARKANSAS IN 1828.

Mr. Crittenden possessed a bright mind, equal to that of any of the early Arkansans. Those who knew both persons said that he was an abler man than his celebrated brother, John J. Crittenden, who was one of the nation's most noted statesmen from 1820 to 1861. Mr. Robert Crittenden was a large man, handsome in appearance, at-

tractive in manners, and princely in bearing. He was magnetic and had a sparkling, penetrating eye. Judge Turner, one of Arkansas' strongest lawyers, said of him, "As an orator, he had no equal in the Territory; and, in the judgment of the writer, he has had no equal here since his day." He was noble and generous: he despised fraud and hated dishonor; he did not know fear. The year before his death he found Albert Pike, Arkansas' scholar and poet, teaching a country school in Pope County. He recognized the talent of the young man and at once secured for him the place of assistant editor of the *Advocate*, a paper published at Little Rock. Thus one of the last acts of this noble man's life was to start an obscure but talented youth upon what was to become a remarkable career.

### Test Questions.

What is the difference between a state government and a territorial government? Between the Federal government and a state government? What is the capital of the nation? When was Arkansas given territorial government? Compare our present legislature with the first in the Territory. What laws did the first legislature pass? What are the duties of the auditor of a territory? of the treasurer? How did the salaries of these officers compare with the salaries of the same officers today? Why this difference? What is the difference between a territory of the first and one of the second grade?

Give an account of the early life of Robert Crittenden. Has war any educational value? What position did he hold in the

government of Arkansas? What were his duties? What difficulties were in his way? How did he meet them? How old was he? What was the work of the second legislature? Why was the capital moved to Little Rock? Compare the Little Rock of 1820 and of 1900. Why has it grown to a city? When was Arkansas Post founded? Why had it not grown more? How long was Mr. Crittenden in the public service of Arkansas? Sum up his work for the Territory.

### Map Questions.

*Map of Indian Cessions*, p. 59.—What part of Arkansas was occupied in 1819 by the Quapaw Indians? by the Cherokees? *Map of the United States*.—Locate Vicksburg.

## CHAPTER X.

### JAMES MILLER.

ARKANSAS' FIRST GOVERNOR.

1776-1851.

The territorial government had been organized and set in motion by Mr. Crittenden several months before the arrival of Governor Miller; and, therefore, Mr. Crittenden is looked upon as the real governor of Arkansas during the first few years of her history. James Miller, actually her first governor, is thought of rather as the hero of Lundy's Lane.

It was in this battle that he had given the modest answer and done the daring deed that have been a motto and an example for every boy in the land. The commanding officer pointing to a British battery on a height overlooking the field had asked Colonel Miller if he could take it. "I'll try, sir," was his reply. Cautiously and steadily he marched his men up the heights, almost to the enemy's guns; then, by an impetuous charge and a desperate struggle, he dislodged the enemy, seized the battery, and planted there the American flag.

It was five years later, December, 1819, that Colonel Miller came to Arkansas Post as the first governor of the Territory. An eye-witness thus pictured the scene: "The day after our arrival at the Post, General James Miller, the hero of Lundy's Lane and of Fort Erie, \* \* \*



JAMES MILLER.

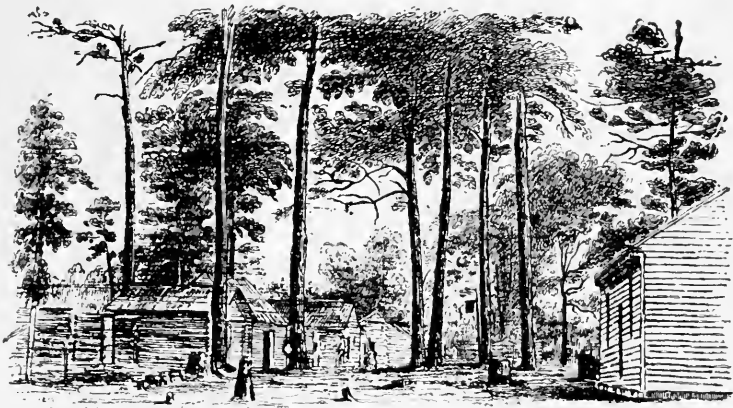
arrived at that place to enter upon the discharge of the duties of said office. He came up the river in a splendidly fitted-up barge, with a large and well-finished cabin, having most of the conveniences of modern steam-boats. This boat had been fitted up, manned and furnished by the United States government expressly for his use. On the after-part of the cabin, on both sides, her name, *Arkansaw*, was in-

scribed in large gilt letters. She had a tall mast, from which floated a magnificent national banner, with the word *Arkansaw* in large letters in the center, and the words, 'I'll try sir,' the motto of the regiment he commanded at Lundy's Lane, interspersed in several places."



Governor Miller remained in Arkansas until 1824, when he returned to New Hampshire, the state of his birth. He was absent from Arkansas much of his term. Because he did not like the situation of Little Rock, he made his home at Crystal Hill, fifteen miles above, to which he tried in vain to have the capital moved. After leaving Arkansas, Governor Miller was appointed collector of the port of Salem, Massachusetts, where he remained till his death.

When Governor Miller came to Arkansas, there were many settlements scattered over the Territory, but separated by long stretches of wild forest. Helena, Pine Bluff, Benton, Cadron, Davidsonville, Fort Smith, Hot Springs, Biscoeville, Crystal Hill, and Little Rock were



A PIONEER VILLAGE IN A CLEARING.

fast growing into towns. Beyond these villages, bold pioneers had built lonely cabins at points far apart through-

out the Territory. Some of these immigrants had been soldiers in the War of 1812. The United States had given each soldier in that War a certificate that entitled him to one hundred and sixty acres of the public lands. Many of these tracts were located in Arkansas.

Other tracts were taken up by sufferers from the earthquake of 1811. The government allowed these people as much land as they had lost by this earthquake. The shock occurred at New Madrid, Missouri, on the Mississippi River, and was one of the most violent known. The whole country from the Ohio River to the St. Francis in Arkansas was disturbed. Houses were thrown down, trees were split and lashed together, the earth was sunk, lakes were formed, great strips of land were plunged into the Mississippi, and deep fissures were made in the earth. The Sunk Lands of northeast Arkansas were caused by this earthquake. Fortunately, few people lived in that section of Arkansas in 1811, and the loss of life was therefore small.

These early settlers had for many years but little connection with the outer world. In 1817 two post-offices were established; one at Davidsonville in northeast Arkansas, the other at Arkansas Post. These two post-offices served the district from St. Louis to Monroe, Louisiana, and had a monthly delivery. Under these circumstances it is a matter of no surprise that the people were ignorant concerning the general news of the day.

As an illustration of this ignorance, there is the amusing story of Major Jacob Pyeatt, formerly an officer in the Revolutionary War.

In 1807 Major Pyeatt and several families from Georgia and East Tennessee came west to our newly acquired territory. They brought with them tools, horses, cattle, their household goods and servants. The journey was made by land and over some of the roughest country ever traveled by a pioneer. Through the aid of the



PIONEERS PUSHING ON TO THE WEST.

Chickasaw Indians, they crossed the Mississippi in canoes and made their stock swim the river. The party followed an Indian trail to Batesville and then turned southwest, coming to the Arkansas River at a point which they named Crystal Hill. Later they moved to the mouth of the Cadron, now in Conway County.

In 1815 the President sent Major Gibson to establish military posts along the upper part of the Arkansas River. In going to the headwaters of the river, Major Gibson stopped at the Cadron settlement, where he rested and enjoyed the hospitality of Major Pyeatt. In a conversation between the two gentlemen, Major Pyeatt asked for news from the States. To his inquiry Major Gibson replied that the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain had been ratified.

“Peace!” exclaimed the old Major, “What peace? I did not know that the United States had been engaged in war with Great Britain since the Revolutionary War.”

Major Gibson then told his astonished host of the War of 1812 and of its leading events.

### Test Questions.

Who was the first governor of Arkansas? In what other position was he more famous? How was he famous? Describe Governor Miller's arrival at Arkansas Post. Where did he reside? What was the population of the Territory in 1819? Name the most important settlements in the Territory at that time. Which of these places are important towns now? Why? How were men encouraged to settle in Arkansas and in other western territories? What event other than the war caused settlements in Arkansas? What effects of that earthquake are still to be seen in Arkansas? What were Arkansas' means of communication with the rest of the country before 1819? Tell a story illustrating her condition in this respect.

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas* (See also p. 86).—Locate Helena, Pine

Bluff, Benton, Cadron, Davidsonville, Fort Smith, Hot Springs, Biscoeville, Crystal Hill, Little Rock. Where are the Sunk Lands? Trace the St. Francis River. *Map of the United States*.—Locate Louisiana, Georgia, Tennessee, New Hampshire, New Madrid, St. Louis, Salem (Mass.). *Map of Canada*.—Where is Lundy's Lane?

## CHAPTER XI.

### BENJAMIN JOHNSON.

ARKANSAS' FIRST GREAT JURIST.

1784-1849.

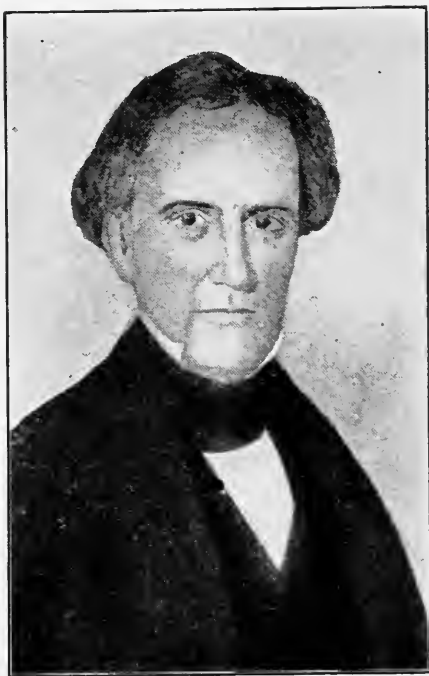
In addition to a secretary and a governor for the new Territory, the President appointed three judges. The Territory was divided into two circuits, to each of which one judge was assigned. The third judge assisted first in one circuit and then in the other as circumstances required. The three together composed the Superior Court, which tried all important cases.

Foremost among the judges appointed by President Monroe was Benjamin Johnson. He was Arkansas' greatest jurist from the year after the organization of the Territory to the middle of the century. He served so acceptably under President Monroe that he was reappointed by President Adams and President Jackson. When Arkansas became a state, he was appointed United States district judge; and in this capacity he served until his death in 1849.

Benjamin Johnson was the youngest member of a

family of distinguished men. One brother became a congressman, judge, and noted preacher; another killed the great Indian chief Tecumseh at the battle of the River Thames in Canada; another won distinction in the War of 1812 and later became a congressman; and a fourth brother was in the lower house of Congress for fifteen years, a United States senator for ten years, and Vice President of the United States for four years.

The father of these noted men was a Virginian, who, as early as 1779, pushed his way into the wilds of Kentucky, where Judge Johnson was born. Kentucky was known as the "dark and bloody ground," because upon its soil there were many bloody struggles among the Indians themselves, and often between the Indians and the early set-

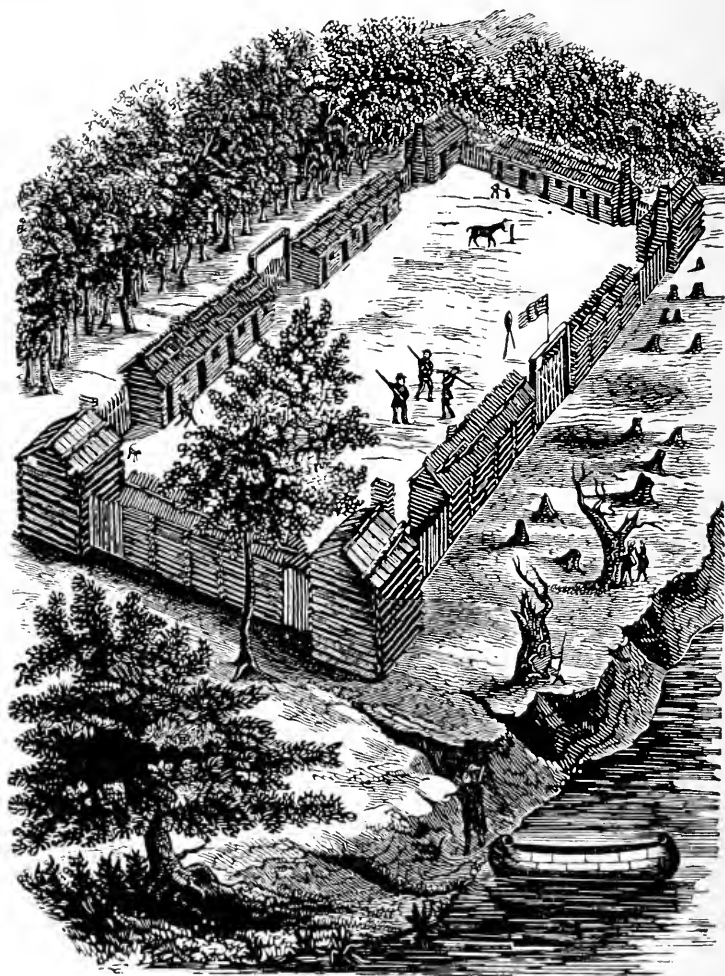


BENJAMIN JOHNSON.

tlers. The Indians were jealous of the pale faces and frequently attempted to get back their hunting grounds.

Those early pioneers who pushed into the forests and

fields of Kentucky settled in villages in the center of which they built a fort with a block-house at every cor-



*From an old print.*

A FORT OF KENTUCKY PIONEERS IN THE DAYS OF BENJAMIN JOHNSON'S BOYHOOD.

ner. Around the fort the log houses of the settlers were grouped. When an Indian attack was threatened, a



gun was fired as a danger signal and the people rushed into the fort, which the men defended by firing upon the savages through port-holes in the block-houses. Sometimes the attack was so sudden that no signal could be given, and a whole family and even a whole settlement would be slaughtered in their homes before they could make their way to their fortifications. Such circumstances developed a brave, resourceful, self-sacrificing people; and under such conditions Benjamin Johnson grew up. As a boy he was noted for his studiousness, industry, and uprightness—traits of character which he retained through life.

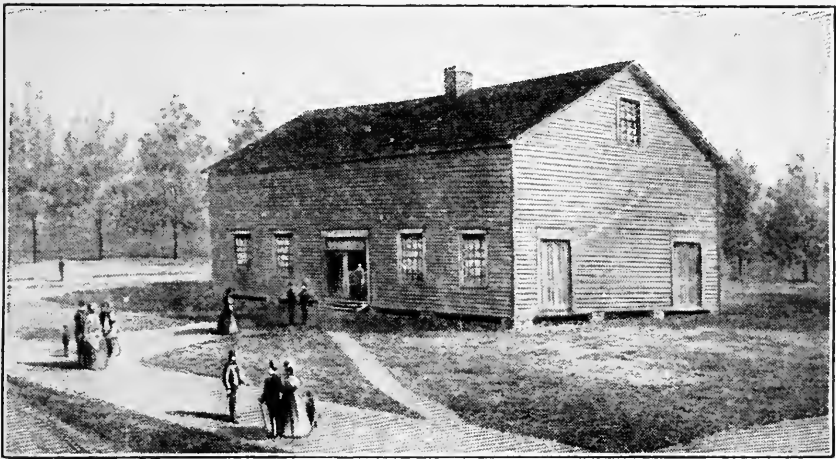
When Johnson became one of the judges of Arkansas, he showed that he was in every way qualified for that great work. In the court-room he was firm, honest, conscientious, and kind-hearted; but not soft-hearted. He indulged in no sickly sentiment about the criminal, but inflicted severe punishment if good government and justice demanded it. He possessed that fearlessness of spirit which is so much needed in dealing with the lawless element to be found in every new country. The wrong-doer stood in constant dread of him, and his fearless administration of justice developed in the people a wholesome respect for law.

Judge Johnson's circuit was half of Arkansas, and he held court in each county of the district twice a year. His courts were seventy or more miles apart, and

they could be reached neither by stagecoach nor by railroad. To keep his appointments, he was forced to follow Indian trails on horseback, and frequently to swim swollen streams. Because of the great distances between settlements, he often had to spend a night on the ground under the open sky. A pair of saddle-bags contained books and clothing for his journeys from court-house to court-house—journeys which often kept him away from home for two or three months at a time. Today, a circuit judge in Arkansas can take a train and reach almost any of his courts in one day. On these long journeys it was the custom for the lawyers from Little Rock to accompany the judge. They formed a regular cavalcade. The way was enlivened by stories and jokes, which made an otherwise tedious trip a very pleasant one. Sometimes as many as a dozen would spend the night at a log house and sleep in one room.

In the winter of 1835-36 Judge Johnson held court at the Crawford Old Court-House, twenty-five miles below Fort Smith on the Arkansas River. With him had come Albert Pike and a party from the capital, on the long, cold trip up the old military road. Indeed, it was so cold that the men had to stop on the way one whole day. When they reached a point on the Arkansas River opposite the court-house, they had to leave their horses and walk across on the ice. A few hours later came another party of gentlemen from Fayetteville, and they

likewise had to cross the river at the same place. In mid-stream the ice broke under one of the number, Mr. Yell, and but for a pole which he carried he would have drowned. This illustrates the dangers and obstacles which pioneers of Arkansas had to endure in traveling; but even after having made a long and dangerous journey they could not always get proper shelter. On this



*From a drawing made after the rough logs had been weatherboarded.*

THE "BAPTIST MEETING-HOUSE" AT LITTLE ROCK: SCENE  
OF THE MEETINGS OF THE TERRITORIAL LEGIS-  
LATURE AND THE SUPERIOR COURT.

occasion Judge Johnson and eighteen lawyers were compelled to sleep in one room of the court-house.

Associated with Judge Johnson on the bench were a few men who afterwards became noted. One of these was James W. Bates, a brother of Edward Bates, who was President Lincoln's attorney-general. In addition

to being a judge of distinction, he was the first to represent Arkansas in Congress and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1836; moreover, he was a brilliant writer. Other men associated with Judge Johnson were Archibald Yell, before mentioned, and Andrew Scott, both of whom rendered the Territory notable public service as judges and as citizens.

For awhile the Superior Court was held at Little Rock, in the "Baptist Meeting-House," which at that time was a low building made of roughly hewn logs. Contrast with the meeting place of the court of that day the present commodious court buildings of the United States at Fort Smith and Little Rock, which are well-furnished and well-kept, with walls embellished by the busts of distinguished judges.

Since the court-rooms were very simple and rude, often amusing incidents would arise. On one occasion, while holding court at Little Rock in a house rented from Colonel Ashley, Judge Johnson saw the Colonel whittling on the railing of the bar. He sharply rebuked Colonel Ashley for "cutting up the court-room." To this Colonel Ashley humorously replied, "I do not know, may it please your honor, who has a better right to cut this court-room to pieces than I have; it is mine."

In Little Rock there is an historic mansion that you must visit. It occupies half a block at the corner of Seventh and Scott streets and is known as the Johnson

home, though it was built by Robert Crittenden. In 1832 it was sold to Judge Johnson, who here spent the last days of his life.

When Judge Johnson came to Little Rock in 1820,



JUDGE JOHNSON'S HOME AT LITTLE ROCK.

the Territory was a wilderness, with scarcely any roads, with but two or three post-offices, and with a population of only 14,000; when he died in 1849, the State of Arkansas was in a thriving condition, with countless roads, with stagecoaches connecting all important towns, with mail delivered at hundreds of post-offices, and with a population of 209,897.

The character of Judge Johnson in private, as well

as in public, was unimpeachable—a rich legacy for his family and for his State. Albert Pike said, “There never lived a more honest, upright, honorable or generous man than Benjamin Johnson.” After the Judge’s death, the reporter of the court wrote this beautiful testimony in his reports: “He died full of judicial honors, beloved by all; admired for the purity of his public life and private character, and for his devotion as a citizen; respected for his unbending integrity and for a heart full of kindness to all. He was a safe, patient and able judge, and the judicial distinction which he won extended far beyond the bounds of the State.”

### Test Questions.

Who was Arkansas’ first great jurist? Tell something of his family. What was Kentucky called? Why? How did the pioneers protect themselves against the Indians? How do conditions such as these influence the character of a people? Briefly sketch the life of Judge Johnson. How many members were there of the Superior Court? How did they receive office? Where were the sessions of the Superior Court of Arkansas held? Describe the hardships of the early judge. Tell the story of the court held at Crawford Old Court-House. What tributes were paid to Judge Johnson after his death? Compare Arkansas at the time of Judge Johnson’s appointment with Arkansas at the time of his death.

### Map Questions.

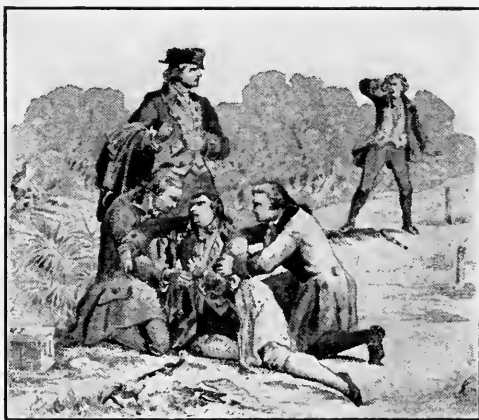
*Map of Arkansas.*—Where was Crawford Old Court-House? Find Little Rock. How far is it from Crawford to Little Rock? How would you make the journey?

## CHAPTER XII.

### MEN WITH CHIPS ON THEIR SHOULDERS.

1800-1833.

The early history of Arkansas is adorned with the names of many able men. Some came to the Territory as government officials; others, as seekers of fortune or fame. Naturally many of them drifted into politics, which at that time was of a vigorous type; and consequently Arkansas saw many hotly contested political battles. These engendered much bitter feeling and often brought about personal encounters, which were usually settled by duels.



The duel was resorted to chiefly as a means of avenging a fancied or an actual wrong. Dueling had always been a part of the code of honor of our

END OF A DUEL IN THE EARLY  
DAYS OF THE TERRITORY.

fathers. They could not tell you when or why it came to be, for duels are almost as old as time itself. Homer speaks of them; and they were known to the Hebrews, the Arabs, and other ancient peoples. They were perhaps most common in France, the country from which came the ancestors of some of our eminent men.

Of several noted duels which had their origin at Little Rock, one was the outcome of so slight a thing as a social game of cards. The players were two of Little Rock's most attractive young ladies and two of Arkansas' highest officials. The game was played one evening in May, 1824, at the home of one of the young ladies. The gentlemen, Andrew Scott and Joseph Seldon, were cultured and promising young lawyers of good Virginia families and had recently been appointed judges of the Superior Court of Arkansas; the highest court in the Territory.

In the midst of the play one of the ladies, Judge Scott's partner, jokingly said, "Judge Seldon, we have the tricks and the honors on you."

To this the Judge warmly replied, "That is not so, madam."

The lady lifted her handkerchief to conceal her tears, saying, "I did not expect to be insulted."

Judge Scott was a man with a high sense of honor, and he turned to Judge Seldon and said haughtily, "Sir, you have insulted a lady, and my partner, and you must apologize for your rudeness."



Judge Seldon declined to do so. He insisted that the lady had said what was not true, and that he had merely told her that fact. Both were high-spirited men, and they thought that honor was involved. As neither party would yield, Judge Scott challenged Judge Seldon to a duel. The challenge was promptly accepted, and the two



THE QUARREL AT THE CARD TABLE.

distinguished men met just across the Mississippi River opposite the mouth of White River. There, on the bank of the Father of Waters, just as the sun was rising, these two highest officers of the law violated the law which they had sworn to enforce. Two pistol shots broke the silence of the morning; and when the smoke

cleared away, Judge Seldon lay dying in his blood.

Two other duels, noted because of the prominence of the opponents, grew out of a political campaign. The year 1827 witnessed one of the most heated political battles in the history of Arkansas. The Territory was entitled to one representative in Congress. The Whigs put forward Robert C. Oden as their candidate, and the Democrats nominated Henry W. Conway. The leader of the Whigs was Robert Crittenden, and the leader of the Democrats was Mr. Conway. So thoroughly did these two men dominate their respective parties that the Whigs were frequently called the Crittenden party and the Democrats, the Conway party. So the real fight was between Crittenden and Conway; and it was indeed a struggle between giants. Every inch of the ground was stubbornly fought over, and much bitter feeling was engendered on both sides. Each had strong partisans, and each made spirited attacks against the other in the papers, on the platform, and elsewhere.

One day, on the streets of Little Rock, A. H. Sevier, who afterwards represented Arkansas in Congress, said some hard things about Mr. Crittenden. Colonel T. C. Newton, a strong partisan of Mr. Crittenden, overheard the remark and said to Mr. Sevier, "Perhaps you are not aware that Mr. Crittenden is not present."

To this Mr. Sevier sarcastically replied, "Perhaps he has some friend present to represent him."

“Indeed he has, sir, and you will soon hear from him,” was Mr. Newton’s sharp reply.

The challenge was given, and these two rising lawyers met in the Cherokee country at Point Remove on the Arkansas River, near where Morrillton now stands. The first fire did no harm; and before the second was given, one of the attending physicians stepped between the two men and insisted that the affair go no further. The seconds and the physician consulted and decided that the demands of honor had been satisfied and that the quarrel should end. One of the seconds announced this to the principals and directed them to drop their pistols, march forward, and shake hands. This was done, and the two men became lifelong friends.

The second duel was between the leaders themselves, Mr. Conway and Mr. Crittenden. They were the most brilliant as well as the most distinguished public men in the Territory. Mr. Conway had served two terms in Congress and was seeking reelection; Mr. Crittenden had served as secretary of Arkansas since her organization as a Territory. Unfortunately, they allowed their political contest to degenerate into a personal quarrel. Each bitterly attacked the other; and finally, on the reelection of Mr. Conway to a third term in Congress, Mr. Crittenden challenged him to a duel. They met on the fateful ground on which Judge Seldon had fallen three years before.

It has often been said that some men can be cool under any circumstances, and of such men Mr. Crittenden was an example; for on arriving on the dueling field about daylight, he threw himself on his blanket and in a few minutes was asleep. He did not awake until all arrangements had been made by the seconds for the duel. Then he took his position where his second designated and awaited the signal "Fire!" At the first shot Mr. Conway fell, mortally wounded; and after lingering a few weeks, he died.

Six years later, Mr. Crittenden and Mr. Sevier were rival candidates for Congress. The campaign was very hot and bitter; and after Mr. Sevier had won, a member of Mr. Crittenden's party challenged him to a duel. But this time Mr. Sevier would not accept. In these days to refuse to fight a duel usually stamped a man a coward. Mr. Sevier had shown that he had the physical courage to fight a duel; now he showed also that he had the moral courage to decline to do so when he was convinced that dueling was wrong. This act, coming as it did, from a man much respected by the people, was a severe blow to dueling. It helped to arouse public sentiment against the evil, so that after the year 1833 dueling was practiced less and less in Arkansas.

These are but a few of the many duels which make a dark page in our history. A false code of honor blasted many bright hopes and cut short many useful lives. But

we should not be too severe in criticising these duelists, for they were honorable men who insisted on the highest standards of gentlemanly conduct, according to the customs of their own time.

### Test Questions.

What is meant by dueling? Tell the story of the duel between Judge Scott and Judge Seldon. Was Judge Seldon wrong in his manner of answering Judge Scott's partner? In what other way could the difficulty have been honorably settled? Tell the story of the duel between Mr. Sevier and Mr. Newton. Who was in the wrong? How might it have been settled without a duel? When one insults or wrongs another, what does honor require him to do? Tell the story of the duel between Mr. Crittenden and Mr. Conway. When and how did people begin to see that dueling was wrong? What evil results came of dueling? Why do we not have duels now? Are we less brave than our fathers? What method do the foremost nations advocate for settling their disputes?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Where is Virginia? What place is located in the state of Mississippi nearest to the point opposite the mouth of the White River? *Map of Arkansas.*—Locate the site of Point Remove.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF.

ARKANSAS' FIRST EDITOR.

1795-1885.

On October 30th, 1819, many of the people of the quiet little village of Arkansas Post were excited over the arrival of a young man at the landing on the Arkansas River. The cause of the excitement was the peculiar kind of conveyance in which the newcomer made his appearance. It consisted of two dug-outs, or pirogues (pĭ-rōgs'), lashed together, freighted with a small printing-press and its outfit. Two boatmen had helped the young man to cordelle his transport through the "Cut-off" from Montgomery Point, a landing forty miles below on the Mississippi, at the mouth of White River.

This young Easterner was from New York. He was small, but strongly built and rather striking in appearance, with a high, broad forehead, black hair, and dark, penetrating eyes. Every feature showed that he possessed a resolute character with a noble purpose.

This young man was William E. Woodruff. He was born on Long Island, New York, in 1795. His educational advantages were meager, for he had received only



WILLIAM WOODRUFF ENTERING ARKANSAS.

one winter's schooling. However, he was a lover of books, and had educated himself by devoting his spare time to reading. His life story shows that, after all, the difference in people depends largely on the way in which

they spend their leisure moments; and that, if one forms the habit of reading good books, he may to a great extent educate himself. To help in his education and to stimulate him to read such books, young Woodruff was fortunate in having a well educated mother.

When Woodruff was fourteen years of age, his mother, fearing that he might become a sailor, apprenticed him to a printer in New York City. He became so efficient and trustworthy that he was often left with the entire management of the business. He soon came to love his trade, but he was not satisfied with New York. The West strongly appealed to him, as it did to many of the Eastern boys in the early part of the last century. The stories of its boundless wealth, its fertile soil, its great rivers, its vast plains and forests, its wild animals and wilder men, had a mysterious charm for the young people of old settled communities. They were seized with a longing to "go west and grow up with the country," as Mr. Greeley later advised them to do.

After learning the printer's trade, Woodruff, like Benjamin Franklin, set out friendless and almost penniless, to seek his fortune. At Wheeling, West Virginia, he bought a skiff, and with a single companion rowed down the Ohio to Louisville; not finding here what he wanted, the plucky boy walked across the state of Kentucky to Russellville. Again disappointed but undaunted, he resumed his journey, walking all the way to Nashville,



Tennessee, where he found temporary employment in a printing-office.

But he was not content to work for others; he wanted a printing-office of his own. He thought of locating in Louisville or Nashville; but he could not find a satisfactory opening, so he came farther west. For some time he considered St. Louis, already a flourishing town in the territory of Missouri; and then he thought of Arkansas which had just become a territory. Finally he tossed up a dollar to decide the matter. As fortune would have it, Arkansas won. Thereupon he bought a small printing-press and outfit at Nashville, Tennessee, and loading this on a keel-boat, went down the Cumberland to the Ohio River, and thence down the Mississippi River until he reached Montgomery Point. In the journey from Nashville to Arkansas Post, three months had passed by. But not even with the completion of this long trip did Woodruff's difficulties end; for on landing, he could find no house to rent and had to build one. When it was finished, it was only a rough little cabin; but he put in his printing-press and began to publish a newspaper. He did all the work himself; or, in other words, he was at once editor, typesetter, pressman, and "printer's devil." In one room he had his bed, type-cases, and editor's table; and in an adjoining room, his printing-press. And there, less than a month after he landed, he issued the first number of the *Arkansas Gazette*.

This seemed a foolish thing to do—to publish a newspaper; for no one could see who were to be the sub-



From a photograph.

### HEADLINES OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE "ARKANSAS GAZETTE."

scribers. The population of the village was perhaps one hundred, while that of the whole territory of Arkansas was only fourteen thousand. To add to his difficulties, Arkansas had at this time but one mail route and two post-offices.

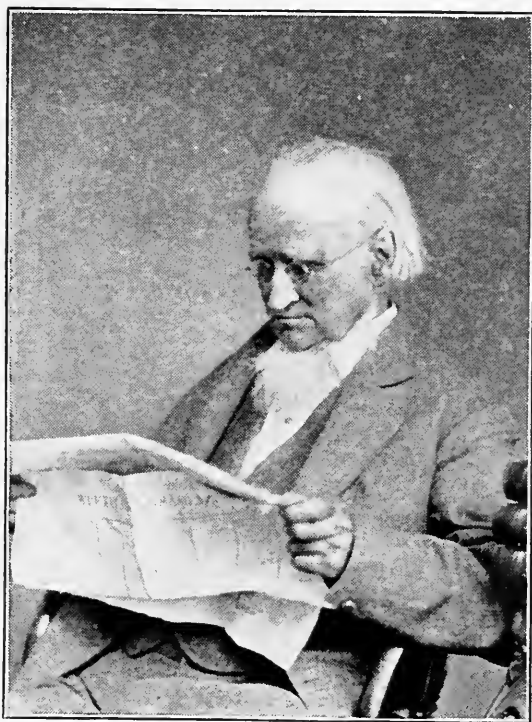
Under these conditions the prospects for a thriving newspaper business were very discouraging, but young Woodruff was not the man to be disheartened by unfavorable circumstances. On the other hand, such conditions only stimulated him to greater endeavor; and he had determination enough to keep at work, believing that there would be a time when his business would pay. His

far-seeing eye looked to the future, when, in place of a wilderness, Arkansas would be a great state; and when, in place of a small weekly, he might publish a large daily. The first number of the *Arkansas Gazette*—a single sheet, twelve inches square—was issued on the 20th of November, 1819; and the paper is still published — a ten-page daily, the largest in the State, and the oldest living paper west of the Mississippi.

Though its beginning was so humble, the *Gazette* came to be a strong and influential journal.

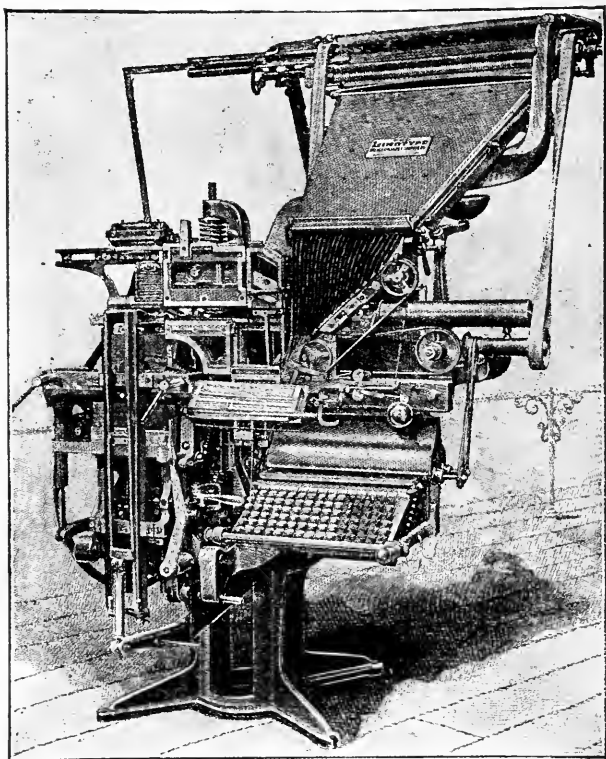
Through its columns an incen-

tive was given to all movements looking to the upbuilding of Arkansas; and thus a sound public opinion was formed, and the people were enlightened and furnished with new hopes and higher ideals. In the early days there was



WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF, FOUNDER OF  
THE "ARKANSAS GAZETTE."

much bloodshed in Arkansas; but perhaps lawlessness did not exist here to any greater extent than in other territories in pioneer days, though, for a while, the Territory got a bad reputation abroad. Woodruff threw the



A MODERN LINOTYPE MACHINE FOR TYPE-SETTING.

influence of the *Gazette* on the side of law, and by constantly striving to advance the highest interests of the people, built up in the citizens a desire to be law-abiding.

The reputation of his paper spread beyond our borders. Three years after it was established, *Niles' Register*.

a noted journal of the East, said that the *Arkansas Gazette* was the best conducted paper west of the Mississippi. In 1821, Mr. Woodruff followed the capital from Arkansas Post to Little Rock; and ever since, except for a short time during the Civil War, the *Gazette* has been published at Little Rock.

It was eleven years before another paper was founded in Arkansas. In 1830 the *Advocate*, a Whig paper, was established at Little Rock under the editorship of Charles P. Bertrand, who had served as apprentice to Mr. Woodruff. In a few years the *Advocate* passed into the hands of Albert Pike, one of the most brilliant writers of the day.

From time to time other newspapers, though many were short-lived, were established at such centers as Little Rock, Helena, Batesville, Fort Smith, Fayetteville, and Camden.\*

### Test Questions.

Why was William E. Woodruff important in the history of Arkansas? Give a sketch of his life before he came to Arkan-

\*An ably edited paper was the *Washington Telegraph*, published at Washington in Hempstead County. It was the only paper in Arkansas that continued publication all through the War. Its editor during that trying period was John R. Eakin. The *Telegraph* still lives and is one among the few old papers of the State. After the War, papers sprang up all over the State, the *Arkansas Democrat* being the most important. At the present time (1905) there are about three hundred papers published in Arkansas, of which twenty-five are dailies.

sas. Which is better for a youth, poverty or wealth? Why? Describe Woodruff's first appearance in Arkansas. What was his ambition? What were the conditions in Arkansas for such a business? What is a pirogue? Describe the founding of his paper. What was its name? the date of its first issue? What can you say of its history? What did it do for the State?

Name some other papers started in Arkansas in the early days. Which of these papers still exist? How many papers are published in the State now? How many dailies? Name the more important papers of the State.

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Locate Long Island (N. Y.), Wheeling (W. Va.), Louisville (Ky.), Nashville (Tenn.). *Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Russellville, Montgomery Point, Helena, Camden, Batesville, Fayetteville, Washington, Fort Smith, the "Cut-off."

## CHAPTER XIV.

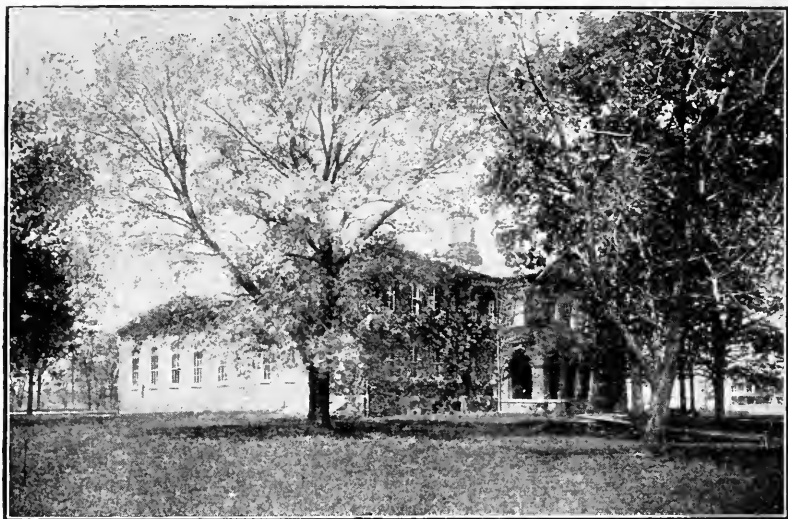
### JOHN POPE.

1770-1844.

Arkansas is much indebted to the older states for the strong men who in her infancy took the lead in Church and State. Kentucky sent Robert Crittenden, who, as the first secretary of the Territory, did so much for the development of Arkansas; Benjamin Johnson, her first great judge; and John Pope, one of her early governors. Far away New Hampshire sent her first governor, James Miller. From Tennessee came A. H. Sevier, one of Arkansas' first congressmen; from Missouri, two of her governors, James S. and Elias Conway; from Massachusetts, Albert Pike, her poet; from Pennsylvania, Rev. J. W. Moore, the father of Presbyterianism in Arkansas, and Dr. Andrew Hunter, the great pioneer Methodist preacher. These early leaders in Arkansas were, as a rule, members of distinguished families in other states.

John Pope was a cousin of George Washington; and like his distinguished kinsman, he was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia. His parents gave him a college education, sending him to William and Mary Col-

lege at Williamsburg, Virginia. When a young man he moved to Kentucky, where he became prominent in law



THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY, WILLIAMSBURG, VA.,  
WHERE JOHN POPE WAS EDUCATED.

and politics. First he served in the legislature, and later he represented Kentucky in the United States Senate, being a colleague of the great Henry Clay. Some years before Pope was elected senator, he had opposed Clay for the House of Representatives and, after a remarkable contest, had been defeated.

It is interesting to note how Pope came to be governor of Arkansas. In 1828 John Q. Adams and General Jackson were candidates for the Presidency. President Adams and Pope belonged to the same political party; and they were connected by marriage, their wives being sisters. Notwithstanding these facts, Pope was such an



admirer of General Jackson that he supported him in preference to Adams. Jackson was successful in the contest and, on becoming President, appointed Pope governor of the territory of Arkansas.

For six years Pope held the reins of government in Arkansas, and during his administration the capitol building at Little Rock was begun and partly completed. Prior to this, Arkansas had been too poor to build a state house, and her legislature had met during most of the territorial period in a small and poorly furnished,



THE HENDERLITER PLACE AT LITTLE ROCK: SCENE OF MEETING OF THE LAST TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE, OCTOBER, 1835.

leaky frame building. The first day of the session of 1829 was rainy, and it is said that the members got thoroughly wet before Judge Cross could administer the oath

of office. The territorial officials had their offices either at their residences or at the back end of stores. At times the "Baptist Old Meeting House" was used for the sessions of the territorial legislature.

Through the efforts of A. H. Sevier, the member of Congress from Arkansas, the United States Government in 1831 donated to Arkansas ten sections of the public land with which to build a state house. As soon as this was done, the legislature met to perfect plans for the erection or purchase of a suitable building. The need of one was so urgent that it was suggested to secure for the capitol the residence of Mr. Crittenden. His house was the largest and handsomest in the city, and had just been built. The suggestion was a popular one, and in a short time the legislature passed a bill providing for the purchase of this home. All were rejoicing over the prospect of a new state house, when, to the utter surprise of the legislature, Governor Pope vetoed the bill. This action was so unexpected to both the legislature and the people of Arkansas that it came like a thunderbolt and created much excitement. The members of the legislature and the officers of the Territory felt that they had done without a state house long enough, and they were greatly angered. To think that a governor, a new man in Arkansas, should defeat their plans!

But Governor Pope's position was right. He had vetoed the bill, as he told the legislature, because Mr.

Crittenden's house was not worth the ten sections of land, and because in a few years it would not be large enough to serve the purposes of the growing Territory which would soon be a state. His explanation, however, did not satisfy the people, and they tried to get President Jackson to remove him. But again they were disappointed, for the President and Congress had more faith in Governor Pope than in the legislature of Arkansas. Instead of removing him, Congress passed an act taking the land and the building of the capitol out of the hands of the legislature, and placing the whole matter in the hands of Governor Pope. This was a high compliment to the Governor, and the result showed that Congress had acted wisely.

In a short while Governor Pope sold the lands, from the sale of which he realized \$31,722.00. At about the same time Mr. Crittenden's home was sold for only \$6,700.00; so the policy of the Governor had saved the Territory \$25,022.00 and had prevented the purchase of a house wholly unsuited for state purposes. He selected the present site of the old capitol as the most desirable location. Objection was offered that the place was an old Indian burying ground. To this the Governor humorously replied, "We will build a monument to their memory." Through his exertions, work was quickly begun on the new building and was enthusiastically pushed during his term. However, the capitol was not

finished until 1840, five years after he had retired from office; but to him belongs the honor of having built the first state house, which for its day was an imposing structure and a credit to Arkansas. Now (1905) it is old and unsafe, and the state is erecting a magnificent building to take its place.



ARKANSAS' FIRST STATE HOUSE, BEGUN UNDER GOVERNOR POPE, 1833.

At the expiration of his term, Governor Pope went back to Kentucky. On his return to that state his many friends felt that a man of such ability could not be spared from public service; and though he sought no office, they elected him a member of Congress. In this as in other positions he was faithful. He was a noble, true man; and duty was his guiding star. A political oppo-

ment has paid him this beautiful tribute: "Politically, we are opposed to Governor Pope, but personally we esteem him on the score of every good quality that can possibly recommend a human being. To the noble generosity of his heart and the highest integrity, is added a mind profound, capacious, and discriminating. From our knowledge of his character, we conclude that his generous and manly nature is incapable of doing injustice to any one."

### Test Questions.

In what respect is the biographical history of Arkansas different from that of Eastern states? Name some noted men in our early history and the states from which they came. How did John Pope become governor? Sketch his career before his appointment. What event especially marks Governor Pope's administration? What had the Territory previously done for a state house? Tell the story of the building of the State capitol. In this controversy, which was right—Governor Pope or the legislature? Sketch the career of Governor Pope after the expiration of his term. What was the character of Governor Pope? What should be the guiding star of every public official?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Locate Virginia, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Missouri, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania. What route would you take from Virginia to Kentucky, if there were no railroads? From Kentucky to Arkansas? How far is it from Virginia to Arkansas?

## CHAPTER XV.

### AMBROSE H. SEVIER.

1801-1848.

Ambrose H. Sevier, of whom you read in an earlier chapter, was a descendant of a noble French Huguenot family named Xavier. In their beloved France, the Xaviers had fought bravely for religious liberty; and when their cause was lost, they came to America that they might enjoy here what their native country denied them. When Washington wanted troops to fight for our country, no braver soldiers rallied to his standard than the Seviers. Having fought heroically in their native land for religious freedom, they now fought with equal energy in their adopted country for political freedom. Three of his family were officers in the Revolution, one of whom was killed in the battle of King's Mountain, South Carolina.

During the Revolutionary War a branch of the family pushed across the Blue Ridge Mountains into the wilds of Tennessee. They were bold pioneers: they opened fields and planted frontier settlements; and they led their neighbors in repelling Indian assaults. They were

the ablest leaders that Tennessee had in organizing and establishing her government. In recognition of the services of John Sevier, the people of East Tennessee erected a monument in the court-house square at Knoxville. On the monument is this inscription:

“Pioneer, soldier, statesman; governor of the state



INDIANS PLUNDERING CATTLE ON A FRONTIER PLANTATION.

of Franklin.\* Six terms governor of Tennessee. Four times elected to Congress; a projector and hero of King's

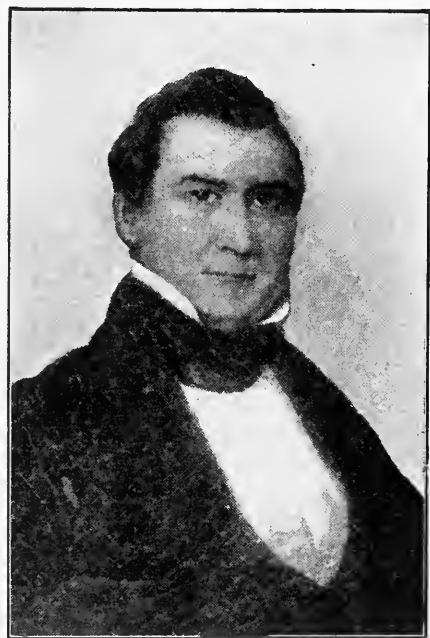
\* The first settlements in what is now Tennessee were under the colonial government of North Carolina. In 1774, some discontented settlers of this region withdrew from North Carolina and formed a separate government, which they called the State of Franklin. Of this, John Sevier was elected governor. In 1788, this government was given up; for two years following, the district was again under the jurisdiction of North Carolina, and in 1796 became the State of Tennessee.

Mountain—thirty-five battles—thirty-five victories. His Indian war cry—‘Here they are! Come on, boys. Come on!’ ”

It was in the midst of these pioneer conditions that John Sevier’s great-nephew, Ambrose H. Sevier, was born and grew to manhood. Thrilling events were occurring all about him, and in many of them his relatives were

leading figures. They were fighting the Indians, making laws, governing the State, and representing it in Congress.

On his mother’s side also Mr. Sevier was fortunate. She belonged to one of Tennessee’s most distinguished families, being the aunt of the two Conways who afterwards became governors of Arkansas. Young Sevier came to Arkansas in 1821.



AMBROSE H. SEVIER.

He married the daughter

of Judge Benjamin Johnson and was thus connected with two of the most influential families of the Territory, the Conways and the Johnsons.

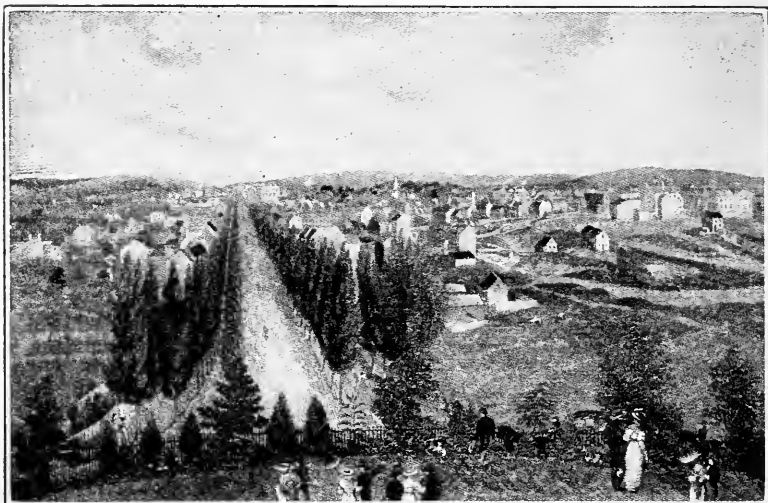
Mr. Sevier had not been in Arkansas long before he



showed the noble qualities of his ancestors. In politics he had a remarkably successful career. He represented Pulaski County in the territorial legislature from 1823 to 1827; and when his cousin, Henry W. Conway, was killed in a duel with Robert Crittenden in 1827, Mr. Sevier resigned as Speaker of the House and was elected to Congress in Mr. Conway's place. He represented Arkansas in Congress for twenty years in succession. For nearly half of that time he was her only representative, since Arkansas as a territory was entitled to but one.

Mr. Sevier was a faithful public servant and never missed an opportunity to serve his people. It was through his efforts that the Territory was allowed to elect her own officers, that the United States paid the expenses of the legislature, and that Congress made large land grants to the Territory for internal improvements and for building a state house. For good roads Arkansas has never had a great reputation, though her roads to-day are model highways compared with those of the Territory, which were so badly kept that travel was attended with great difficulty. By persistent and tactful efforts in Congress, Mr. Sevier secured land grants for opening up important roads. Probably no territory ever received more favors at the hands of Congress than Arkansas, and these Congressional favors were due to her able and wide-awake representative.

He was anxious that Arkansas should become a state as soon as possible, because a state has more rights and privileges than a territory. A state helps to elect the President; a territory does not. A state is represented in the United States Senate; a territory is not. A state helps to make federal laws; a territory does not. In order



*From an old print.*

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL, AS IT LOOKED WHEN MR. SEVIER  
WAS CONGRESSMAN.

to change from a territory to a state, the people of the territory must frame a constitution and ask Congress to admit them into the Union. When Congress has approved their action, the change is complete and the territory is then a state.

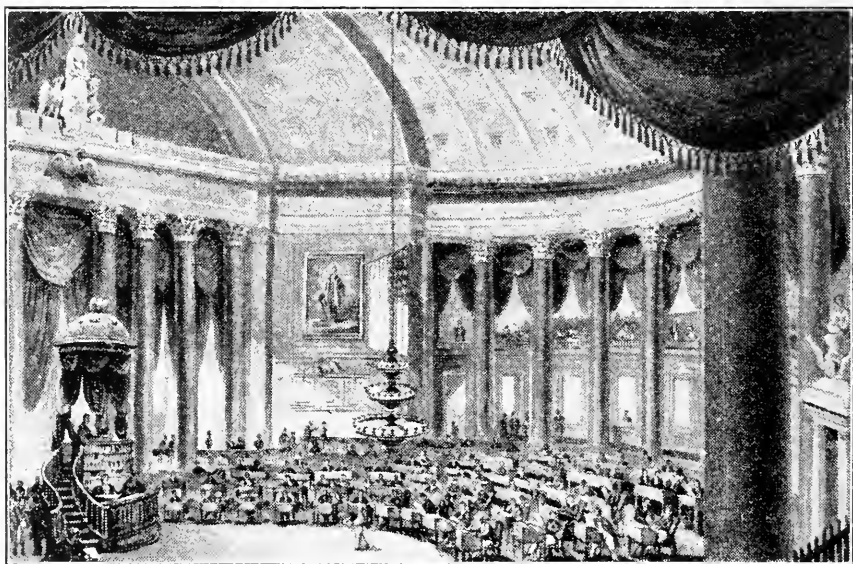
In 1831 Mr. Sevier began a movement for the admission of Arkansas into the Union, as a state; and he urged the matter upon Congress and the people of the Territory

until his efforts were successful. He prepared Congress for favorable action by keeping before that body the growth of the Territory. In Arkansas, newspapers discussed the matter, public speakers presented it from the platform, and the people in mass meetings passed resolutions asking for the change. By 1835, the Territory was thoroughly aroused. That year the subject was submitted to the people; they voted for statehood and elected a convention which framed a constitution in January, 1836. Mr. Sevier laid this constitution before Congress, defeated all opposition, and in June succeeded in passing the bill making Arkansas a state.

The chief opposition to her admission came from those who objected to slavery. Her population at this time was 51,809, of whom 9,838 were negroes. These slaves, for the most part, had come in with the settlers from states east of the Mississippi. Slave labor was profitable in raising cotton, for the production of which the soil and the climate of the Territory were favorable. The opposition to Arkansas was overcome by admitting Michigan, a free state, at the same time. Arkansas showed her appreciation of Mr. Sevier's services by sending him to the United States Senate.

Nothing could better illustrate the isolation of a frontier state at this period, and the general condition of travel and postal service, than this letter home from Mr. Sevier's fellow senator and Arkansas' last territorial

governor, William S. Fulton. He writes to his wife from Washington, in the winter of 1837, and tells her his great delight in receiving her letter that has just come by the express mail from New Orleans, having left that city only six days before. "You may well imagine," he goes on to say, "my surprise and astonishment, as well as



*From an old print.*

A SESSION OF THE NATIONAL HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WHEN MR. SEVIER WAS MEMBER FROM ARKANSAS.

gratification at receiving a letter by such a route in so short a time from home. I could well afford to pay the postage, seventy-five cents, for such a letter. I could scarcely realize the fact that I had received a letter written by you *only twelve days ago*, after having been annoyed all winter in not receiving my letters until they

were *forty or fifty* days old. We have, however, succeeded in obtaining so many mail facilities, that hereafter I hope we will be relieved from this most vexatious state of things. Our letters will now pass, I hope, in from fifteen to twenty days.”

Mr. Sevier continued to serve Arkansas as a senator until 1847, when he resigned to accept an appointment by President Polk as minister to Mexico. This was an important appointment because the United States at this time was closing a war with that country. Mr. Sevier, however, did not remain long in Mexico, but the following year resigned and returned to his plantation near Pine Bluff. He had not been home long when he fell ill. From this illness he never recovered. He died in 1848, at the noon-tide of life, rich in honors and in the love of the people of his adopted state. The governor, other state officials, and the legislature in a body attended his funeral. The legislature paid this beautiful tribute to his memory: “The name of Ambrose H. Sevier is intimately identified with the history of Arkansas, and is a part of the public treasure of the State; and . . . as his generous, liberal, and noble nature endeared him to each one, and caused all to lament his death, so his eminent talents and distinguished public service will make his character a splendid mark for imitation to future generations.”

Arkansas honored Mr. Sevier as she has honored no

other man. Through the legislature she erected in Mount



Holly Cemetery in Little Rock a fitting monument "as a memorial of her grateful sense of his public services." We have been negligent about showing our distinguished citizens proper respect. We should adorn the capitol building and grounds with tablets and monuments in keeping with the great and good deeds of our

ablest sons.

MONUMENT TO AMBROSE H. SEVIER.

### Test Questions.

What positions did Mr. Sevier occupy in the public service of Arkansas? What was his full name? Of what state was he native? What can you tell of his ancestors? In what year did he come to Arkansas? What measures for Arkansas did Mr. Sevier introduce in Congress? Which of these was the most important? Why? When did it take effect? How may a territory become a state? Name three differences between a territory and a state. Why was it difficult to secure state-

hood for Arkansas? How did Congress meet this difficulty? How did Arkansas show her appreciation of Mr. Sevier's services? How long was Mr. Sevier in the service of Arkansas? Why did he resign? When did he die? How has Arkansas honored his memory?

## CHAPTER XVI.

### DAVID WALKER.

#### THE PIONEER LAWYER.

1806-1879.

With no roads or bridges, and with court-houses a hundred miles apart, the pioneer lawyer had many hardships; for the whole territory was his circuit. He traveled over it twice a year, going from court to court. The lawyers from the different towns went in parties—over mountains, through valleys, and across swollen streams; but as they made their way, they enlivened the journey with stories and jokes. The traditional log cabin of two rooms sheltered them at night; or, if by chance darkness overtook them miles away from human habitation, they camped under a friendly oak. Each man carried in his saddle-bags his clothes and part of his law library.

The following incident, related by Mr. Hallum, gives us a glimpse of the pioneer lawyer's life: "The legal circuit rider, when he could not ford, had to swim the streams in those days. On one occasion General Pike, General Royston, and many others stripped to swim a



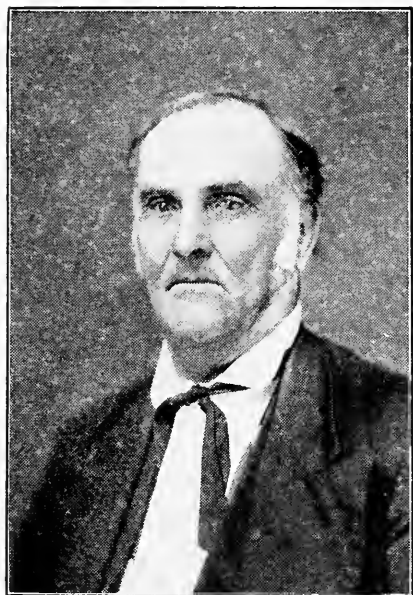
stream in southwest Arkansas. After dismounting, each disciple of Blackstone rolled up his clothing and strapped it across his shoulders to keep it above the tide. On this occasion, General Royston had three hundred dollars in bank bills, and for better security he held his pocket-book in his mouth. After the horse had advanced some distance in the foaming stream, he suddenly stepped off a precipitous ledge of rock and baptized the rider. The General's mouth, forgetful of the treasure it was charged to keep, flew open in an involuntary spasmodic effort to expel the water, and the money was lost."

In many counties there was no court-house. When this was the case, the judge held court in the back end of a store or in a church building, and at times even in the open air. Law was administered largely without books. When memory failed, the lawyers fell back upon reason and general principles. There were but few jails; the ready gun and the leather thong took their place.

One of our ablest pioneer lawyers was Judge David Walker. Again we are indebted to Kentucky for a distinguished citizen and judge. Born in 1806, he was reared on the frontier of the "dark and bloody ground." He had poor educational advantages, but nature had blessed him with a sound mind, a strong will, a rugged constitution, and great energy. These elements enabled him in part to overcome his lack of advantages.

He loved books, and he allowed no opportunity for

study to pass unimproved. While other boys were at play, David was at his books; while his neighbors slept, he worked. This habit of study remained with him through life. In the midst of a busy profes-



DAVID WALKER.

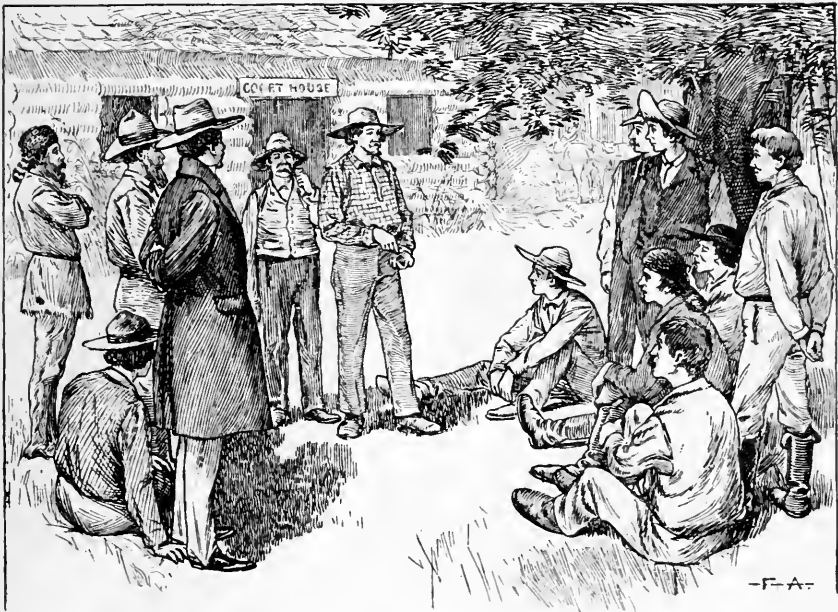
sional life he was a close student of law, and he became a master of its principles.

Soon after he was admitted to the bar, he came to Arkansas and settled at Fayetteville. This was in 1830. He steadily rose in his profession and soon built up an extensive practice. He was faithful to his clients and studied their cases carefully, never putting off till tomorrow what he could do today. Albert Pike said that Judge Walker was the foremost lawyer in northwest Arkansas.

Once he was arguing a criminal case in the circuit court of Searey County. He was the lawyer for the defense, and Mr. Alf Wilson of Fayetteville was the prosecuting lawyer. After the argument of the lawyers, the judge sent out the jury to make up their verdict. As the court-house was a mere cabin of one room, made of

poles, the grand and petit (pět'í) juries had to do their work out of doors under the trees, or in a neighboring pawpaw thicket.

In this case the defense seemed to have the advantage. While the jury were deliberating, one of the twelve, knowing that a certain man at the court, who had not been called as a witness, knew the facts in the case, slipped away and got the man. When he was brought



WITNESS ADDRESSING THE JURY OUT OF COURT.

before the jury, though neither judge nor defendant was present, he told the facts; and his testimony completely changed the case and the verdict. Such a proceeding was not in keeping with due forms of law; but the jury returned a verdict of guilty. Mr. Walker who

felt sure of winning the case was astonished at the decision. After the court adjourned, Mr. Wilson, to whom the juror had communicated the story, told Mr. Walker how it had happened. Such were the irregularities of pioneer courts.

Mr. Walker was active in politics. He was prosecuting attorney for the third judicial circuit (1833-35). He was elected to the State senate in 1840 and was one of the framers of our first State constitution. In 1844, as a candidate of the Whig party, he ran for Congress and conducted an able campaign against the Democratic candidate, Archibald Yell. But he belonged to the minority party and was defeated. Prior to the Civil War, the Whigs had some of the ablest men in the State, but they were not successful in electing many of them to office.

Without Mr. Walker's knowledge, the legislature in 1848 elected him judge of the Supreme Court. This was a high compliment, especially as the legislature was made up largely of Democrats. Judge Walker was president of the Secession Convention in 1861; and though a Union man, he voted for secession after all hope of peace was gone. In 1866 he was chosen chief justice, but two years later he was driven out of office by a change in the government. In 1874 he was again elected a member of the Supreme Court, a position which he held for four years. He died at his home in Fayetteville, in 1879.

### Test Questions.

What is a circuit court? a circuit judge? How did lawyers travel in early Arkansas? Tell an anecdote of the difficulties of travel in those days. What is meant by a "disciple of Blackstone"? Where was court often held? Describe the courthouse. Give a sketch of Judge Walker's early life. How did Mr. Walker build up his law practice? Tell a story to illustrate the operation of the early courts. Could this incident have happened today? The reason? Why is it not proper for witnesses to testify before the jury after they leave the courtroom? What are "grand" and "petit" juries? What is included in the expression *politics*? What can you tell of Judge Walker's political career? What is meant by "prosecuting attorney"? On what points were the Whigs and the Democrats opposed to each other before the Civil War? Which party was the more powerful in Arkansas? Why?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Searcy County. How would you go from Little Rock to Searcy County? What is the county seat of Searcy?

## CHAPTER XVII.

### ARKANSAS SCHOOLS.

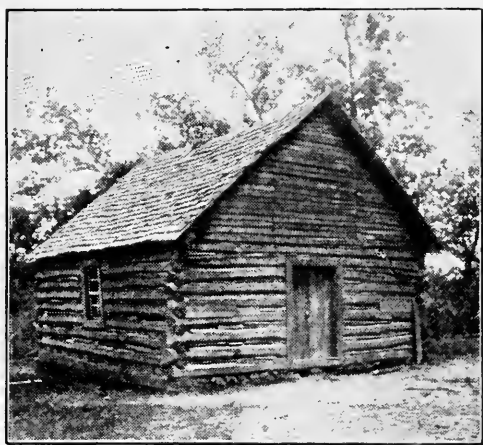
1819-1905.

In the pioneer days of Arkansas, the same difficulties that confronted the farmer and the lawyer were felt also by the teacher, and often more keenly. The children on the frontier had poor educational advantages, not because our forefathers did not believe in education, but because they had no money to establish schools. Then, too, the country was sparsely settled, the population as late as 1836 being less than one person to the square mile.

The elementary schools of early Arkansas were mostly private schools. The teacher canvassed the community with his "articles," as the paper setting forth the terms of his school was called, and the people subscribed "scholars" at one or more dollars each per month. He took part of his pay in "boarding round" among his pupils. As there was but little money in the district, it was frequently stipulated in his contract that he could be paid in meal, pork, sugar, coffee, or other acceptable

produce. Often these frontier schools were taught by the preacher, who was considered an authority on almost any subject.

The schoolhouse was built of logs. It had one large room with a door at one end and a big fireplace at the other. The window was a hole, two or three feet square, cut in the side of the wall. A plank pushed between two logs of the wall served as a desk. The benches were made of split logs placed on wooden pegs. From these high seats dangled the children's legs.



AN OLD LOG SCHOOLHOUSE.

Many pupils, living at a distance, came on horseback. Every one brought his dinner, and the noon hour was one of recreation for both teacher and scholar. The favorite game was ball.

These forest schools, as they are sometimes called, seldom attempted to teach more than the three R's—"Reading," "Riting," and "Rithmetic." If geography were taught, it was confined to the geography of the United States. Webster's "Blue Back Speller" was the all-important text-book, for it served both as reader and

speller. Friday afternoon was devoted to recitations and spelling matches. The latter were great incentives to hard study. The two rows into which the school was divided faced each other, the teacher gave out the words, and the pupils tried to "turn down" one another. Happy indeed was he that "stood up" the longest. Frequently out of these school contests grew the old-time neighborhood spelling-bee, in which the whole country, old and young, took part. The people for miles around gathered Saturday night at the old schoolhouse. The contest began as soon as sides were chosen. Interest grew as the lines thinned, excitement ran high, and loud indeed was the applause for the victor. The champion speller was the hero of the neighborhood.

Before the war, Arkansas had neither a public high school nor a state university. There were private academies supported by tuition fees, and they flourished in all parts of the State. Thirteen were chartered by the legislature in 1859, and nine in January alone, of 1861. Their principals were usually college graduates; and they did a high grade of work, emphasizing culture and character-building. Greek, Latin, and mathematics were the chief subjects in the course of study. Some of these schools established a wide reputation and drew students from all sections. They educated many men who later played prominent parts in the affairs of the State.



The leading institutes of this period were St. John's College at Little Rock, Cane Hill College in Washington County, and Arkansas College at Fayetteville. Of these, Arkansas College, under the Presidency of Robert Graham, built up the greatest reputation, drawing its students from neighboring states as well as from Ar-



AN UP-TO-DATE SCHOOLHOUSE.

kansas. All these institutions were forced to close during the Civil War, and in 1863 the buildings of Arkansas College were burned.

The State after the War took the lead in both elementary and higher education. In 1862 Congress passed an act proposing to aid the states in maintaining agri-

cultural and mechanical colleges. The legislature of Arkansas in 1867 accepted this offer, and in 1872 the Arkansas Industrial University was opened at Fayetteville. Besides federal aid, the University receives from the legislature biennial appropriations for its maintenance. The University now has fourteen buildings besides farm houses. Courses are offered in the arts, sciences, agriculture, and engineering. The University of Arkansas, the name adopted in 1889, has had a steady growth since its foundation. It stands at the head of the public school system of the State.

The churches also have been active in higher education. The Presbyterians since 1872 have maintained the Arkansas College at Batesville. In 1884 the Methodists established at Altus Central Collegiate Institute, since 1889 called Hendrix College. It was moved to Conway in 1890. Hendrix is the only male college in the State. Its growth is largely due to Reverend A. C. Millar, its president from 1887 to 1902. Galloway Female College, founded in 1888 at Searcy, and Henderson College, in 1891 at Arkadelphia, also belong to the Methodist Church. Quitman College was for many years the property of this Church. The Baptists in 1886 opened Ouachita College at Arkadelphia, and by devoting to it all their efforts for higher education, developed it into a strong coeducational institution. Throughout its history the college has been under the able management of John

W. Conger. Central Baptist Female College is now controlled by this Church. In 1891 the Arkansas Cumberland College was established at Clarkesville.

Before the war, the State made several vain efforts to provide public schools. The central government at Washington had given Arkansas, in common with other states, the sixteenth section in every township to be used

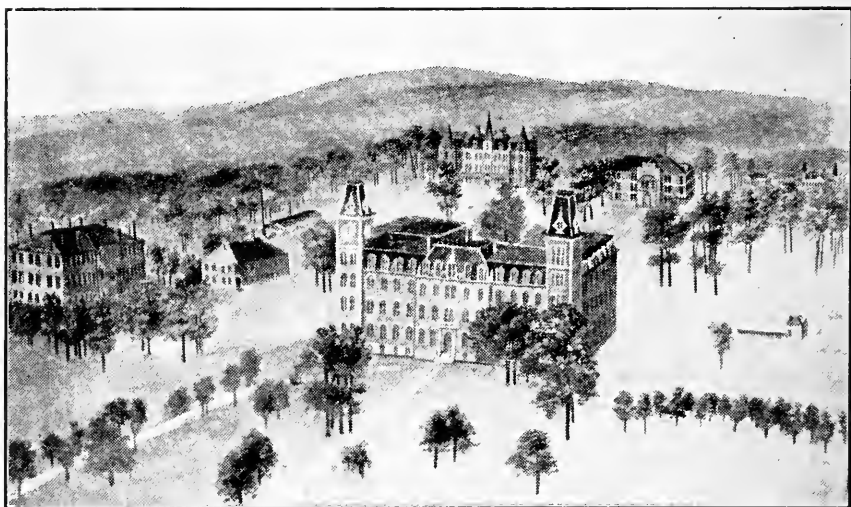


PEABODY HIGH SCHOOL AT LITTLE ROCK.

for public schools. In 1829 the legislature passed a law providing for the leasing of this land, the rents of which were to be applied to the support of the public schools. But nothing came of this law.

Governors Pope, Conway, and Yell were friends of education; and they urged the establishment of public

schools. In 1843 the legislature provided for a general system of public schools. The law authorized the sale of school lands and directed that the interest on the fund thus raised should be used in maintaining schools. Even this plan was not successful. Many who bought land never paid for it; besides, the money collected was not wisely managed. The result was that the income was



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT FAYETTEVILLE.

not sufficient for the support of a system of schools. In 1860 free schools were provided for less than one-fourth of the children of the State.

Since the war, Arkansas has been more successful with her public schools. From 1864 to 1868 she was fortunate in having a governor who was a practical educator. Governor Murphy had been a teacher in Washington

and Carrol counties before the war, and he knew the defects of the old law. He recommended the establishment of a free school system based upon taxation. Before this, the State had attempted to maintain her schools by an income from school lands alone. Governor Murphy stood for the principle that "the property of the State should be taxed to educate the children of the State."

The school legislation of 1867 is a landmark in the educational history of Arkansas, for it established a system of public schools to be supported by taxation. The State had at last found a solution of the educational problem. Since that time the schools have steadily grown; and while the law has been changed from time to time, the principle of taxing the wealth of the State to maintain the public schools, remains the foundation of the system. Besides the elementary schools, there are in all the principal towns public high schools. These, too, are maintained by taxation and take the place of the old academies, though a few private academies still exist and are doing excellent work.

### Test Questions.

Of what kind were the elementary schools of Arkansas before the Civil War? What is the difference between a public and a private school? How were the first private schools started? How were the teachers paid? Compare the schools and the schoolhouses of today with those of pioneer times.

What is meant by "the three R's"? Describe the old-time spelling-match. What good did it do? What is the "sixteenth section fund"? What is its origin? How did it succeed? What can you say about the provisions for education in the State immediately before the war? During the war? What official of Arkansas was active in improving these conditions? Why is 1867 an important date in the history of our schools? Before the establishment of high schools, what schools took their place? What subjects were taught? Name and locate the colleges in Arkansas before the War. When was the University of Arkansas established? How is it maintained? Why should the State maintain a university? What other colleges are there in the State? How do these differ from those before named? Why should boys and girls go to college?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Washington County, Cane Hill, Arkadelphia, Searcy, Batesville, Fayetteville, Conway.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE PIONEER PREACHER.

1815-1860.

Before the advent of the school teacher and the lawyer, we had the preacher. This is the history of all new countries—the man of God prepares the way. The faithful minister was found teaching and preaching in different parts of Arkansas, even before our territorial government was organized.

Perhaps no one experienced greater hardships than the pioneer preacher. His places for holding service were fifty or a hundred miles apart and were often scattered over a third of the Territory. He would travel three or four hundred miles in going the rounds of his circuit. There were no roads, so he took with him a compass to guide his foot-steps, and a hatchet to mark the way for future travelers. Often he spent the night in the woods, with his saddle-bags for a pillow and an oak tree for shelter. Wild animals and prowling savages were all about him, yet he slept, trusting that he would be spared for the work he had to do.

On account of such hardships, as well as on account

of Arkansas' reputation, in early days, for its lawless men, it was difficult to get preachers to come here. It was common for the bishop of the Methodist Church, when he was on his way to hold a conference in Arkansas, to begin in Tennessee, calling for volunteers for this field. In 1831 such a call was made, and eight preachers responded. They met in Memphis on Christmas Day. Finding the swamps on the Arkansas side impassable, they bought a cheap flatboat and drifted down the Mississippi to Helena, reaching the place after three days' travel. From this landing, they went to their respective appointments.

Traveling through the river-bottoms of south and east Arkansas was always more hazardous than going over the mountains in the northern part of the State. This low country was frequently under water, and the preacher was compelled to cross swollen streams in a skiff or on horseback. When neither skiff nor horse could cross, he lashed together with grape-vines two or three logs and crossed on them. He had many thrilling experiences—some of them, narrow escapes.

One of these pioneer preachers, the Reverend John Harris, tells us that once while traveling through the country, he came to a cross-roads grog-shop. Several men under the influence of whiskey stopped him and asked him to take a drink. When he declined, they insisted; and finally they told him that he *had* to drink,



and started to force him to do so. Not knowing just what to do, the good man appealed to their patriotism by saying, "Gentlemen, this is a free country; you have a right to drink if you wish to do so; and I, a free man, have the same right to decline. Now, in the name of our liberties, in the name of our fathers, who fought for these liberties, I entreat you not to force me, a free man, to drink against my will."

Instantly one of the crowd threw off his coat and, clinching his fist, said, "The first man that touches this stranger will have me to whip."

This old soldier's patriotism had been aroused by Mr. Harris' reference to American liberty and our Revolutionary fathers, and he was ready to fight again.

We should honor the early preacher, whose many deeds in organizing and establishing churches were truly heroic. Not only did he spread the gospel of peace, but he checked lawlessness, taught temperance, and created a respect for law. Many communities owe the culture and morality for which they are noted, to the pioneer preacher. He was a man of meager knowledge, compared with the professional men of today; but, to pioneer Westerners, he seemed a man of much learning.

One of the most potent as well as one of the most unique factors in the religious life of those days was the camp-meeting. The camp-ground was a shady grove near a good spring; and in it was erected a large shed

or arbor, under which the meetings were held. Board or log shacks, consisting of two rooms and a passageway between, were built in a square around the shed. These were for the accommodation of the campers, who for fifty miles around would come and spend three or four weeks.



OLD SALEM CAMP-GROUND, SALINE COUNTY, WHERE DR. HUNTER DID SOME OF HIS GREATEST WORK.

At these meetings religious fervor ran high, and the services occupied the day. There was the prayer-meeting at sunrise, the sermon at eight and eleven in the morning and at three and seven in the evening. Dur-

ing these revivals there were hundreds of conversions.

The Baptists, the Methodists, and the Presbyterians early gained a foothold here. The Roman Catholics were the first to come, settling at Arkansas Post. The first sermon at Little Rock was preached in 1820 by Cephas Washburn, a Congregational minister. He was on his way to establish a mission school for the Cherokees at Dwight, near what is now Russellville. There were then only two cabins at Little Rock.

The father of Presbyterianism in Arkansas was the Reverend J. W. Moore. He was sent as a missionary from Pennsylvania and arrived at Little Rock in 1828. He organized a church at this place, the first of his denomination in the Territory. He was an able minister and exercised a strong influence at the capital in the early days. He preached to the Church for twelve years and then found-



REVEREND J. W. MOORE.

ed Sylvania Academy, nearly thirty miles east of the capital. Reverend Moore was a classical scholar, and the school under his management gained a wide reputation. Other ministers followed and established Presbyterian churches at different places in Arkansas.

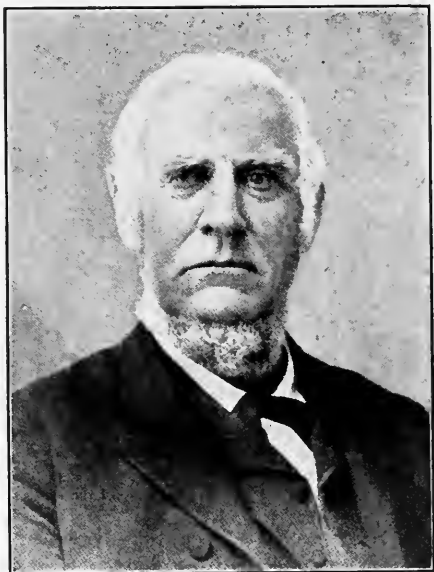
The Baptists reached Arkansas about the same time that the Presbyterians came. One of the first church buildings in the Territory was the "Baptist Old Meeting-House" at Little Rock. As you know, the legislature frequently held its sessions in this house. It was a log cabin built in the third decade of the last century. The brave ministers of the Baptist Church pushed their way into all places, and throughout our history this denomination has been one of the strongest and most useful in the State.

The Methodists established the Spring River Circuit in the Northeast as early as 1815, and the Reverend Eli Lindsay was put in charge of the work. The following year the Hot Springs Circuit, embracing the southern half of the Territory, was formed. The first Methodist church was built two or three years later in Hempstead County. It was a log cabin and was called "Henry's Chapel."

Of the pioneer preachers, the most conspicuous was Doctor Andrew Hunter. He was born in Ireland in 1813 and was brought to Pennsylvania two years later. In 1835 he came west and taught a mission school in the Choctaw Nation. The following year he was admitted to the Arkansas Conference at Batesville, the first annual conference of the Methodist Church in Arkansas. For sixty years he served his Church in various capacities—as pastor, presiding elder, and Bible agent. During this

time he represented his conference at nearly every general conference of his Church.

Doctor Hunter was a large-boned, deep-chested, broad-shouldered man. He had grayish blue eyes and a massive head. He was very modest, humble, and simple; but he was a powerful preacher. He influenced every one, wherever he worked; and so he helped to make society better. For many years he was one of the most widely known and best loved men in the State.



DOCTOR ANDREW HUNTER.

At the close of the war he was president of the State senate; and in 1867, he was sent to the United States Senate, but was not allowed to take his seat, as Congress refused at that time to receive representatives from Arkansas. In 1872, just after the war, the government in the State became so unbearable that the conservative people cast about for some one that could lead them to victory as their candidate for governor. All eyes turned to Doctor Hunter, for this "grand old man" had the confidence of the entire State. He was conducting a

camp-meeting in Bradley County when the news reached him. Believing that it was his duty to preach the gospel, he sent word to his political friends that he would not undertake the race. He died at Little Rock in 1902, at the age of eighty-eight.

### Test Questions.

Why does the preacher precede the lawyer in new countries? Tell of the hardships in the life of a pioneer preacher. Why was it difficult to get ministers to come to Arkansas? Give an anecdote to illustrate that phase of frontier life. What service did these ministers render the country?

Describe the camp-ground; the camp-meeting. Why are these meetings not common now? What place connected with the early Baptist Church is famous in our history? What can you tell of the work of Cephas Washburn? Give a sketch of the career of the Reverend J. W. Moore; of Doctor Andrew Hunter. What other churches are now in the State?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Helena, Dwight, Bradley County, Hempstead County, Spring River.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### WILD-CAT BANKING IN ARKANSAS.

1836-1860.

When a new game is introduced at school, all the boys and girls wish to try it. They think there is nothing like it and enter into it with enthusiasm. The same disposition is seen in men, only it shows itself somewhat differently. If a new business yields large profits, every one takes stock in it. If a farmer this year makes good profits on a crop of potatoes, all the farmers in the neighborhood next year will plant potatoes. Sometimes the people of a whole state or nation will go wild over some proposal or business. It may be free silver, greenbacks, or banks; it must be something. A few years ago everybody was enthusiastic about free silver; some years before, the whole country was wild over greenbacks; but perhaps the most widespread mania that ever seized the American people was the mania for banks.

When the people from the Atlantic states came west, they found fertile soil, excellent timber, navigable streams, and a healthful climate, but little money. They felt that if only they had money, they could develop the

resources of the country and soon become rich. But how were they to get money? To obtain it by hard work was too slow a method. Some one suggested the establishment of banks. They had been a success in the East;



THE STAMP FOR IMPRESSING THE  
STATE SEAL.

why should not they be in the West? Almost with the suggestion, came a great clamor for banks; and soon they were established in all parts of the West. There was great rejoicing; business became active, farms were opened, homes were built, railroads were planned, cities were laid out, and every one seemed prosperous.

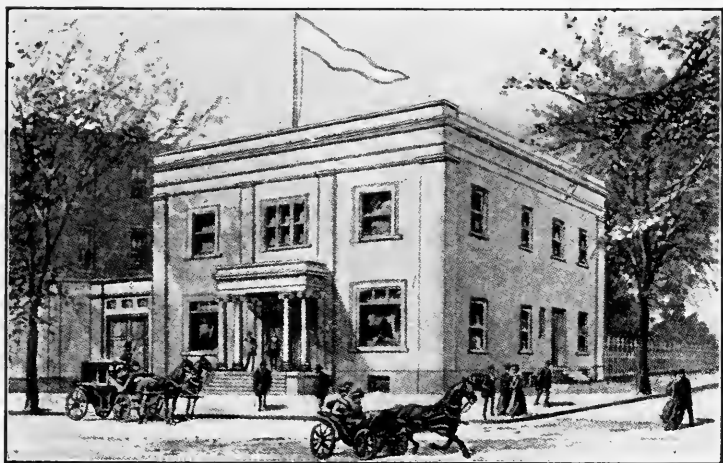
But this wave of prosperity receded when the banks failed.

The railroads were not built, and the proposed cities never became more than villages; for the people were again without money. They were poorer, but much wiser. They had learned that the short roads to wealth



are dangerous, and that the old one of rigid economy and honest toil is the safest.

Arkansas tried one of the short roads. In her mad rush for fortune, she fell. Her fall was a hard one—in fact, so hard that she has not yet entirely recovered from its effects. As soon as the State came into the Union in 1836, she entered the banking business. Her people thought that if one bank would do some good, many banks would do more; so they tried the business on a large scale. The legislature provided for one bank to be called the State Bank with a capital stock of one



OLD STATE BANK BUILDING AT LITTLE ROCK.

million dollars. It was to be located at Little Rock with branches at Fayetteville and Batesville. The State was to select the officers and manage the bank. Not satisfied with this, she wanted another bank; so the

legislature created one with a capital stock of two millions of dollars, to be known as the Real Estate Bank. It also had headquarters at Little Rock, with branches at Washington, Columbus, and Helena. Though this bank was chartered by the State, it was to be controlled by private individuals. The main object of creating this bank was to supply the people with money by lending it to them. Such an arrangement pleased the people, money was plentiful, and for awhile business was lively.

Doubtless you would like to know where and how the banks got the money to lend. Arkansas is still a little sensitive on this point, but the story must be told. The banks had no money, and they could not borrow any; the State had no money, but her credit was good, and she could borrow all the money needed. So the State really borrowed the money for the banks. This she did by issuing bonds. Now a bond is a note or a written promise to pay with interest the amount named on the face of the bond. Arkansas issued three million dollars' worth of these notes or bonds. The Governor signed them for the State and turned them over to the banks; and they in turn sold them to money-lenders in the East. In this way the banks got large sums of money. In a short time, however, this money was all gone, having been borrowed by the people. Then the banks issued paper money, called bank notes, which were mere promises to pay the holder their face value. These also they

loaned to the people. But when the interest fell due on the State bonds, the banks had no money with which to pay. They had let it all out. They called upon the people to pay back what they had borrowed; but the people could not do this; for they had spent all their money. So the banks failed. They went out of business and tried to settle their affairs.



WARRANT, OR NOTE, ISSUED BY ARKANSAS DURING THE WAR.

These were sad days in the history of Arkansas. The bank failures caused the ruin of many private fortunes and brought suffering to many innocent people. It took years to adjust the business of the banks. The people who had borrowed the money either could not or would not pay what they owed. The result was that the State was left with a big debt on her hands. When she signed the bonds, she promised to pay back the principal, or face-value of the bonds, and the interest on it; but it was understood at the time that really the banks would pay

the indebtedness. How to pay these bonds was the subject of discussion in the legislature for many years. The State did not pay the debt until a long time after the war; and part of the notes called the "Holford bonds" were never paid, because the State claimed that she had been wronged. This refusal of the State to pay the bonds was called repudiation. Some day you must find out just how this was done. This experience taught Arkansas a lesson and since that time she has never engaged in wild-cat banking.

### Test Questions.

What is banking? What is meant by "wild-cat" banking? Why did the people of Arkansas engage in this business? When? What was the immediate effect? Why? Did this prosperity continue? Why? What lesson did the people learn? What banks were established? What is credit? a bond? a bank note? How did the State treat the "Holford bonds"? What do we call this action?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Where is Batesville? Washington? Columbus?

## CHAPTER XX.

### THE CONWAY FAMILY.

1793-1892.

The Conway family is one of the most noted of our State. From it Arkansas had a congressman, two governors, a judge of the Supreme Court, and other officers of less note. A general in the Revolution, a brother-in-law of George Washington, and the mother of President Madison were Conways. The family is justly proud of its history; for its long line of distinguished members spans several centuries in both England and America.

In England the Conways belonged to the nobility, and it is said that they lived in magnificent style in their castle on the Conway River, in Wales. England has a harsh law by which the eldest son inherits all the property and the titles of his deceased father, with the result that the younger children must work their own way in the class of the common people, there being two classes of English society—the nobility and the common people.

In 1740, a younger son of the Conways came to Virginia to seek his fortune. Many of the younger sons of English nobles settled in Virginia and formed what was

called the "F. F. V.'s"—First Families of Virginia. The Conways, the Johnsons, the Seviers, the Rectors, the Crittendens, and others, might be called "F. F. A.'s"—First Families of Arkansas.

During the Revolutionary War, one Thomas Conway crossed the Alleghanies and settled in Tennessee. Here he reared a family of seven sons and three daughters, some of whom became eminent after moving to Arkansas. They were blessed with a good mother as well as a noble father. Judge Pope says that she was a saintly woman and was affectionately called by all who knew her, "Mother Conway."

HENRY W. CONWAY.

1793-1827.

Henry W. Conway was one of their sons. He served with distinction under General Jackson in the War of 1812. Soon after the organization of the Territory, he came to Arkansas, where his talents were soon recognized. In 1823, he was elected to Congress. He was re-elected in 1825 and in 1827. Unfortunately for him and for Arkansas, he was killed in a duel with Robert Crittenden, in 1827.

It is not the fault of Mr. Conway that Arkansas is not an empire state. While in Congress he helped to pass a bill establishing the western boundary of the Territory about forty miles west of where it now is. This added

a fertile and well-timbered strip of land forty miles wide by nearly two hundred miles in length. But we did not keep it long. As you will remember, a year later the Federal Government made a treaty with the Choctaw Indians that gave to them that part of the forty-mile strip south of the Arkansas River; and in 1828 the Government made a similar treaty with the Cherokees, ceding to them that part of the strip north of the river.\* These two treaties fixed the present western boundary of Arkansas.



HENRY W. CONWAY.

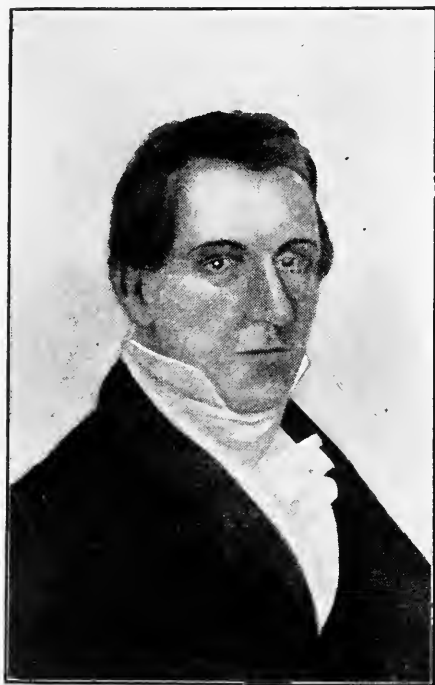
JAMES SEVIER CONWAY.

1798-1855.

James S. Conway, a brother of Henry, was Arkansas' first great surveyor and her first governor after the State had been admitted into the Union. He had received a good education, and he was an expert surveyor. In 1820 he came to Arkansas under contract to survey a large tract of the public lands. For sixteen years he was engaged in this work and for a part of the time he was surveyor-general of the Territory. He had attained

\* See map, page 59.

a high degree of skill in surveying, and the President appointed him to run the western and southern boundaries. Thirty years later, when the western boundary was re-surveyed, not an error was found in Mr. Conway's original line. He often supervised a dozen surveying



JAMES S. CONWAY.

parties in the field at one time. With axe and rifle, chain and compass, he tramped over most of the Territory. He and his men suffered many hardships. Their supplies had to be brought overland from St. Louis and distributed among the parties in the wilderness. Wild animals and prowling savages were a constant source of danger. The surveyors crossed streams, climbed precipitous mountains, and were

frequently exposed to rain and snow. In running the southern boundary they were compelled almost daily, in the midst of the worst weather, to wade through marshes and creeks often waist-deep.

When Arkansas became a state, Mr. Conway was



elected her first governor. He organized her new government and was ever her faithful public servant. At the close of his term he retired to private life. He owned a large plantation on Red River in Lafayette County, for the cultivation of which he had more than one hundred slaves. Through industry and economy he accumulated a large fortune, and he was recognized as one of Arkansas' great planters.

## ELIAS NELSON CONWAY.

1812-1892.

Elias N. Conway, a younger brother of James S. and Henry W., came to Arkansas in 1833. Soon afterwards he entered politics and became one of the State's most honest and competent officials. He was one of Arkansas' two great auditors, the other being James R. Miller. Mr. Conway was auditor from 1835 to 1849.



ELIAS N. CONWAY.

While holding this office he proposed a plan for disposing of our forfeited lands. The State had come into possession of thousands of acres of land, because soldiers to whom the land had been granted by the national government had not paid the taxes. Such

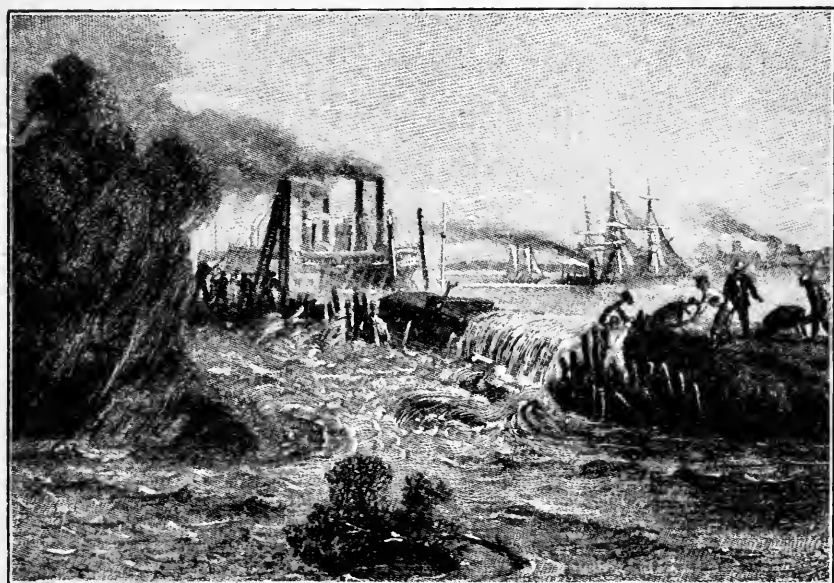
lands are forfeited to the State for back taxes. Mr. Conway's plan was to donate these lands to people who would become actual settlers. His proposition was favorably received, and in 1840 the legislature passed a bill for that purpose. As homes were offered without cost, thousands came to take advantage of such liberality. A few years later Congress made a similar law, and under its operations millions of acres of the public lands have been taken up and settled by people too poor to buy a home. To Mr. Conway perhaps is due the credit of having first suggested this Homestead Law, as it is called.

So much confidence did our people have in Mr. Conway that the Democratic Convention in 1842 unanimously nominated him for governor, although he had not wished to be a candidate. He declined the honor, but ten years later he accepted this office and served two terms (eight years)—the longest administration of any governor of Arkansas.

Mr. Conway might be called our internal-improvement governor, on account of the encouragement he gave to the building of levees and roads. Every few years, in the spring, the Mississippi overflows; and during our history its waters have overrun much of the eastern part of the State, thus destroying the usefulness of some of the best lands in the world. By these overflows the people have lost many millions of dollars. For half a century the State has been trying to prevent such dis-

asters by building levees along the banks of the River. Governor Conway, during his term, pushed the work and built many miles of levees, which protected large areas of land. -

He also fostered the building of railroads. All important towns in the State could be reached by stagecoach

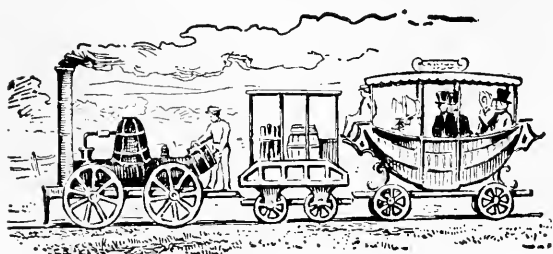


MENDING A CREVASSE IN THE LEVEE OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

or steamboat; but, as population increased, the people demanded more conveniences and faster means of travel. Other states had railroads; why should not Arkansas have them? The first steamcar was built in England in 1804; its speed was only five miles an hour. The first car in this country was built in Boston in 1807, the same

year in which Fulton invented the steamboat. The car was drawn by horses. It was not until 1830 that the people of the United States began in earnest to build railroads.

But no roads had been constructed in Arkansas be-



AN EARLY RAILROAD TRAIN.

cause of her scattered population. During Governor Conway's term, the people became thoroughly interested in rail-

roads; and surveys were made for lines from Little Rock to Memphis, from Little Rock to St. Louis, and from Little Rock to Fort Smith. Part of the road from Memphis to Little Rock was laid in 1858, and it was the first built in the State. When the war came on, all further plans had to be abandoned. After the war the work was resumed. By 1869, the Memphis road was completed. The St. Louis road was built as far as Little Rock by 1872, and two years later it was extended to Texarkana. Railroad building has been continued, and there are now (1905) about three thousand miles of railroad in the State. Both the State and the Federal Government encouraged railroad building by land grants.

When Mr. Conway became governor, Arkansas was suffering from the mistake of the wild-cat banking busi-

ness. He will always be remembered and honored for the energetic manner in which he took up the matter and forced the Real Estate Bank to settle its affairs. It is a rather remarkable coincidence that the banks were opened during the administration of Governor James S. Conway, and that sixteen years later, his brother, Elias N. Conway, led the fight to compel a settlement with the State.

Mr. Conway spent the last years of his life quietly as a private citizen in Little Rock. He was our only bachelor governor. He died in 1892.

### Test Questions.

Give a sketch of the Conways before they came to Arkansas. Tell something of Henry Conway. What was the chief work of James S. Conway? Under what conditions was it accomplished? Name the offices occupied by James S. Conway. Why is it necessary to survey land? When did Arkansas become a state? What is the Homestead Law? Who is its author? What office did he hold? In what years? What are the duties of auditor? What did Governor Conway accomplish during his administration? How do levees and ditches prevent overflow? Should the state or private citizens bear the expense of levees and ditches? When did the United States begin railroad building on a large scale? Why were not railroads built in Arkansas sooner? What were the modes of conveyance before the railroad? What was done in railroad building during Governor Conway's term? When were the roads completed? How many miles of road are there now in the State? Should the State aid in the building of railroads? Why?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Europe.*—Where is England? Wales? *Map of the United States.*—Locate Memphis, St. Louis. *Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Fort Smith, Texarkana. Trace the water boundaries of Arkansas; the important railroad routes.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### THE OLD PLANTATION SYSTEM.

1800-1863.

So much is said of the old plantation system that we often regret that we cannot see it as it used to be. Because the chief product of the plantation is cotton, which requires a fertile soil and a warm climate, only a part of Arkansas is adapted to this system. In the highlands of the northwestern part of the State, because of early frosts and relatively thin soil, cotton farming does not pay. In that section, therefore, before the war, there were but few slaves and fewer plantations. Only the river bottoms and lowlands of south and east Arkansas are suitable for plantations.

The old plantation was a large estate, often consisting of several thousand acres. It was cultivated by hundreds of slaves, whose work was directed by men called overseers. For convenience, the slaves were divided into squads, and over each squad a trusty slave was placed. These "trusties" were reliable old negroes who had endeared themselves to their master by their faithfulness. The "trusties" had to see that their men did the work



COTTON PICKERS BEFORE THE WAR.

allotted to them. Each day's work was planned by the overseer, the night before. At sunrise the signal bell was tapped in the overseer's yard, where all the negroes were expected to assemble; and there to each squad was assigned the work of the day.

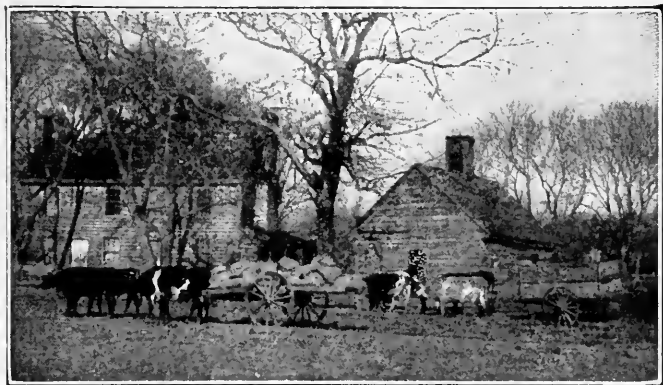
These simple-minded people went to their work cheerfully. They were fond of joking and playing pranks, and frequently they tried to outstrip one another in hoeing and picking cotton, humming some tune as they worked. When a squad once got fairly to work, some one would start an old plantation melody; one by one the others would take it up, and soon the air would be filled with the music of their pathetic voices.

At noon the plantation bell was rung, calling the slaves to dinner and to a rest of about two hours; then work was resumed and continued until sundown. Perhaps there never returned from a day's labor a happier



or jollier crowd than the Southern negroes. After supper the banjo and the fiddle were brought out, and the negro quarters were alive with music, laughter, song, and dance. At an early hour the noise ceased, the lights went out, and the contented slaves were soon asleep.

The cabins of the slaves, grouped about the home of the overseer, made a small village. A characteristic plantation cabin consisted of one large room and a side room, usually built of logs. Back of each slave's house was a small garden where he raised the vegetables which



AN OVERSEER'S HOUSE ON AN OLD PLANTATION.

he and his family ate. His food, "rations" as it was called, though plain, was wholesome and plentiful. It was furnished to him weekly from the master's smoke-house or store-room and consisted principally of meat, bread, rice, and other vegetables. Knowing that he would be provided for, he was happy and care-free.

Then, as now, the negro was intensely religious. The

planter's wife or his daughter regularly gathered the slaves around her and taught them the simple truths of Christianity. On Sunday morning, some member of the master's family would visit the quarters to see that the cabins were clean and that the children were neatly dressed. It is true that once in a while a master was cruel to his darkies; but, for the most part, he was



PLANTER'S HOUSE ON THE MISSISSIPPI BEFORE THE WAR.

kind and lenient to them. They in turn loved their master.

The planter's house was a stately mansion. It was set back some distance from the road, almost concealed

by great oaks that stood in primeval splendor. You approached the house by a broad drive-way. A porch, supported by immense columns, extended the full width of the front. There was a large hall way, on either side of which, both upstairs and down, were spacious, airy rooms. Everything bespoke wealth and comfort. Hospitality was extended to all; for the Southern planter kept open house, and was always a good entertainer.

Christmas on the old plantation was a joyous occasion. It was a time of feasting and merry-making, when the planter's sons and daughters with their friends were back from school to enjoy the gay and festive season. Relatives from far and near made merry at the old homestead, and the house rang with the laughter of happy children. The negroes, too, were happy and had their share of Christmas cheer. "Black Mammy," particularly, with the numerous presents she had received, gave evidence of the good-will of the household. There was a Christmas-tree for the young negro children; and for their elders, a dance, which was especially interesting to the visiting friends.

In the old planter there was no littleness; he was big-hearted and openhanded. One of his noblest qualities was his reverence for woman. She was to him the embodiment of purity and loveliness, and not the slightest evil of her could be whispered in his presence.

The old plantation life had an indescribable charm.



COTTON READY FOR MARKET: A SCENE OF THE OLD SOUTH.

It was the product of a civilization that gave us brave and true men and pure and noble women, who loved their land, as the poet of the old South has said:

“Land of the South—Imperial land,  
How proud thy mountains rise!  
How sweet thy scenes on every hand!  
But not for this—oh! not for these  
I love thy fields to roam;  
Thou hast a dearer spell for me,  
Thou art my native home.”

### Test Questions.

What was the old plantation? What part of Arkansas was not adapted to it? Why? What is the difference between a plantation and a farm? Why have we not the old plantation system now? How are our lowlands cultivated at present? How were the negroes worked? Why was not the plantation cultivated by free labor? Does slavery pay? What is meant by the old plantation melody? Describe the negro cabin; the quarters after supper. How did the negroes get their food? What did the planter's wife and daughter do for them? How did the slave feel toward his master? How is this illustrated by the war? Describe the planter's house; the character of the planter. Describe the Christmas festivities. Why did slavery exist in the South and not in the North? Where did the slaves come from? Did slavery injure the negro? Is slavery wrong?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Point to the plantation lands of Arkansas; to the region of small farms.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### THE REGULATORS.

1835-1845.

Northwest Arkansas is one of the most cultured and prosperous sections of the State. During the first quarter of the last century, however, this mountainous region, was full of savage Indians and wild beasts. Not only the deer, the wolf, and the bear, but also the panther and the buffalo were common. Buffalo herds were scattered all over Washington and Benton counties, and as late as 1830 sportsmen chased this animal. The skins were used for carpets, rugs, saddle-blankets and bed-covers.

We are told that once while hunting, a certain Thomas Wagnor, an old-timer in this section, was overtaken by darkness and had to spend the night in the forest. It was winter, and he had no covering save the hide of a buffalo that he had just skinned. Wrapping himself in this green skin, with the hair next to him to keep him warm, he went quietly to sleep. On awaking next morning, great was his surprise to find the skin frozen so hard that he could not unroll it; and when some hunts-

men finally ran across him, he was nearly dead from cold and exhaustion.

In the mountains were many wolves which did great damage to all the small stock. At night these animals would set up a most doleful, foreboding howl. Three or



APPLE ORCHARD WHERE ONCE HERDS OF BUFFALO GRAZED.

four would start the chorus, then others would join, and soon a pack of forty or fifty could be heard making a most frightful medley of yelps and howls and whines. The noise of the wolves was the signal for the settlers to begin blowing horns. This in turn set the dogs to howling. The blowing of the horns and the howling of the

dogs were supposed to scare the wolves away. Sometimes this noise would be kept up for two hours.

Our early settlers were for the most part, as you know, industrious, law-abiding citizens; but as a wild frontier always offers inducements to the reckless and the wicked, Arkansas had her share of border ruffians. The work of getting rid of the worst characters and of civilizing those that remained forms an important chapter in our history. It is a record of daring deeds, narrow escapes, and often of bloody struggles.

Our mountains, caves, forests, and cane-brakes afforded secure hiding-places for desperate men; and it was difficult to catch them. Horse-stealing was such a common crime on the frontier that some states at this period prescribed the death penalty for this offense. Arkansas imposed this extreme penalty until 1838.

A gang of horse-thieves, perhaps the most desperate that ever infested our State, had headquarters in the valley of the Fourche la Pave River. They were fugitives from justice from other states and had come to Arkansas to carry on their wicked business. They formed a secret society, elected a leader, and agreed upon signs and pass-words. As a cloak for their crimes, their leader turned preacher. They had a place for concealing their horses until they got enough to send to market. Then they took them down the Arkansas River to the Mississippi, where they either sold them or turned them over



to the river pirates, with whom the thieves were in league.

The officers of the law could do nothing with these men.

Finally, the conditions became so desperate that the citizens took the matter into their own hands and constituted themselves a body of regulators. They sent out scouts with instructions to arrest and bring before them all suspicious characters. In this way the ring-leaders were captured. They were immediately tried by the Regulators and, if found guilty, were

hanged. This put an end to horse-stealing in that section.

About 1838, the counties in northwest Arkansas, bordering on the Indian Territory, suffered more than any other section from criminals and desperadoes. Before that time, that part of the State was comparatively free from crime. But in that year the Cherokee Indians from



A FOREST OF PRIMEVAL PINES.

Georgia and Tennessee were required to move to their present homes in the Territory across the Arkansas line. They had been paid large sums of money for their possessions east of the Mississippi River. This fact was known to evil-minded men in all parts of the United States; and they came to Arkansas in great crowds, that they might sell whiskey to the Indians and cheat them out of their money either by trading or by gambling.

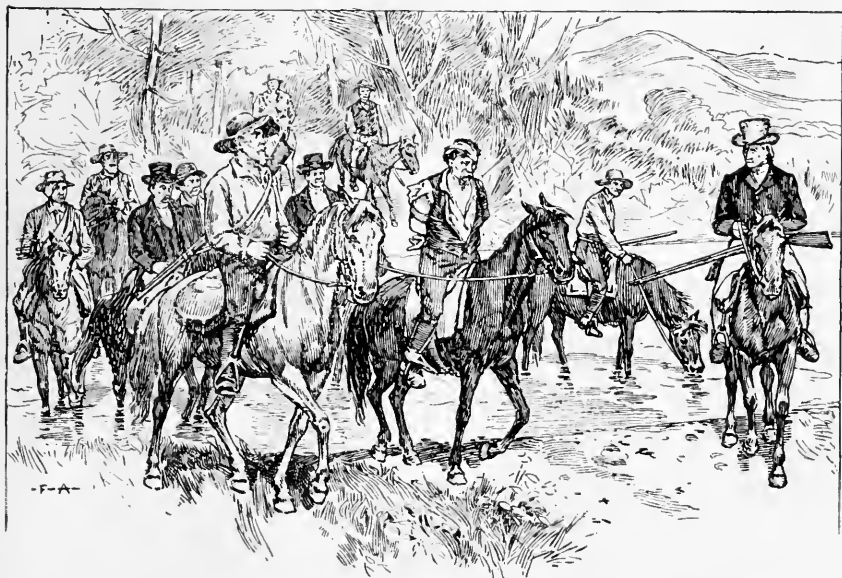
Alfred W. Arrington, a lawyer then living at Fayetteville, described the situation as follows:

“Runaways from every state in the Union were collected along the Cherokee line, and they preyed alike upon the whites and the Indians. For the especial benefit of these desperadoes, it would seem, groceries were erected immediately upon the line, one half of the house being in Washington County and the other in the Cherokee Nation; so that if a crime were committed in one part of the grocery, the offender had but to step across a plank in the floor, and, lo! he was in another jurisdiction.”

Murder and robbery became common. White men would often rob the settlers and then commit the most fiendish outrages in order to throw suspicion on the Indians. Just across the line in the Indian Territory there was a desperate feud between two factions of the Indians, the Ridge and the Ross parties. One night in June, 1839, all the leaders in the Ridge faction were foully assassinated. Naturally, great excitement prevailed in the In-

dian Territory, and this afforded further opportunity for crime across the border in Arkansas.

About the same time there was a most revolting crime on Cane Hill in Washington County. There lived in the community a highly respected and well-to-do farmer, named Wright, who was supposed to have money. One night about nine o'clock, three men came to his door, called him out, and killed him. Then they murdered four or five of his children and set fire to his house. With great difficulty Mrs. Wright and three children escaped.



A BAND OF REGULATORS AND THEIR CAPTIVE.

This awful deed thoroughly aroused the people. As the courts were powerless, the citizens themselves resolved to put an end to such outrages; so a committee of Regu-

lators, composed of thirty-six of the best citizens, was immediately organized. This committee sent out a body of one hundred horsemen to arrest all doubtful characters. These men rode in tens over the county and made many arrests. The committee sat as a court to examine all men brought before them and to pass judgment upon each case. Suspicion finally settled upon about half a dozen men, who, after a long trial, were declared guilty. The death penalty was served upon them, and they were hanged in the presence of perhaps a thousand witnesses.

This was a severe lesson to evil-doers. It taught the criminals that Arkansas was not a safe place for them. After this, the law was allowed to take its course. Partisan accounts of this affair were published, and the impression was made abroad that Arkansas was ruled by the pistol and mob law, though this reputation was not deserved. It is always better that crime should be punished in the legal way; but it was to the credit of the people of our State, that, when the courts could not cope with criminals, the citizens themselves had the character and the courage to suppress crime.

### Test Questions.

What animals were found in northwest Arkansas in the first quarter of the last century? What use did the pioneer make of them? What story is told of the wolves? Describe the buffalo; the wolf; the panther. What induces ruffians to go to the frontier? What crime was the most common among

those of Arkansas? Why could the courts do nothing with them? Tell the story of the gang that infested Fourche valley. How did the people rid the country of them? Why were desperadoes attracted to the northwestern counties in 1838? How did these desperadoes protect themselves? What crime brought matters to a crisis? How did the citizens put an end to crime? What is meant by Regulators? Did they do right? Give your reasons. Is it better for the courts to punish criminals or for the citizens to do so? Why?

### Map Questions.

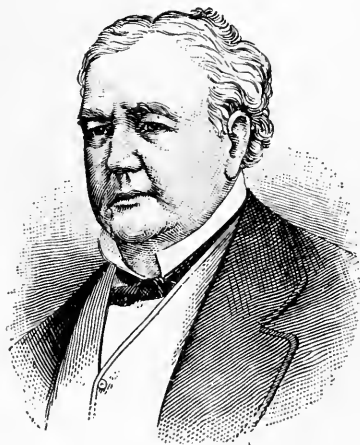
*Map of Arkansas.*—Trace the Fourche la Pave River. What counties does it drain? Bound Arkansas.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### ELIAS RECTOR.

1802-1878.

One of the most original characters that ever lived in Arkansas was Major Elias Rector, of whom Albert Pike tells us in his famous poem, "The Fine Arkansas Gentleman, Close to the Choctaw Line." He was an in-



ELIAS RECTOR.

timate friend of Arkansas' great poet. The poem was written in the winter of 1852, while Major Rector was in Washington trying to secure his appointment as United States marshal for the judicial district of Arkansas. After his return, the poem was recited in his presence.

When some one asked him what he thought of it, he replied, "Wal, all poets are fools, and Pike is the greatest poet I ever knew."

Major Rector was a large man, and striking in appearance. According to Judge Pope, the Major usually

dressed in a full suit of black silk velvet made in the height of fashion; and his linen was of the finest and was very elaborately ruffled. He had long, black, glossy hair, which he wore tucked up with a comb. When loose, it reached below his waist.

On one occasion Major Rector was traveling in a stagecoach from Memphis to Nashville, Tennessee. Some of his companions in the coach were ladies. It was a long and tedious journey. Once Mr. Rector rather carelessly took off his hat, when, to his astonishment, his hair came undone and fell all dishevelled over his shoulders. The ladies were horrified; and at the next stopping place they alighted, and refused to go any farther. When the driver inquired why they would not proceed, they sharply replied that they did not pro-



TRAVEL BY STAGECOACH.

pose to travel in the same coach with a woman disguised as a man. When the Major heard of the trouble, he came out and cleared up the mystery. The ladies,

amused at their mistake, reëntered the coach and resumed their journey. Mr. Rector was very companionable, and the rest of the way was enjoyed all the more because of the humor of the incident.

The story is told that Mr. Rector's hair was once the means of saving his life. He was at an entertainment in New Orleans when a drunken mob broke into the room, knocked out the lights, and began to attack the men with clubs and knives. Mr. Rector happened to think of his long hair and let it down. He was none too quick, for at that moment a ruffian seized him and was proceeding to beat him when he felt his long hair. Thinking that Mr. Rector was a woman, he let him go.

Major Rector was of good family, being a cousin of three of Arkansas' later governors, James S. Conway, Elias Conway, and Henry M. Rector. He was a native of Virginia; but like many boys in the Eastern States, he resolved to come west to seek his fortune. In 1825, at the age of twenty-three, he arrived at Little Rock, then a mere struggling frontier village of log cabins. Here primitive simplicity reigned, and the traditional latch-string hung on the outside of the door. The town gave this young Virginian a hearty welcome, and he resolved to cast his lot with the people of Arkansas. A new country is usually a good place for a young man; for the people are more nearly on a plane of equality, as there is neither extreme wealth nor extreme poverty. Every



one is thrown upon his own resources, and labor is honored.

Mr. Rector was not long in making himself felt. He was a man of impressive personality, and he had great energy and will-power. For some time he was a surveyor; then he entered politics. President Jackson appointed him United States marshal for Arkansas and the Indian Territory, and he enjoyed the distinction of filling this office for sixteen years. After 1837 he made Fort Smith his home.

His most notable public service was in connection with the Indians. He is said to have known them "as a mariner knows the sea." For several years he was Superintendent of Indian Affairs. The Seminole Indians of Florida had given the United States trouble for many years. Two or three wars had been fought with them, and all ef-



A SEMINOLE CHIEF.

orts to move them west had failed. Finally Major Rector was appointed by the President to treat with them. He went by steamer from Fort Smith to Florida. His vessel was loaded with hams, champagne, cigars, and

presents pleasing to the Indian. With him were some Seminoles living in the Indian Territory.

When they reached Florida, he sent these savages among their friends and kinsmen to tell them of a happy hunting-ground in the far West, and to invite the chiefs to come to a council with the pale face. The Major in his princely way gave them presents, feasted them on ham, drank champagne with them, and smoked the pipe of peace. At the same time, he and his Indian friends gave them glowing accounts of the new country to the west. He soon won the hearts of these simple people, and they made a treaty with him by which they gave up their homes in Florida and moved to the Indian Territory. This tact of "The Fine Arkansas Gentleman" closed, once for all, our troubles with the Seminoles of Florida. For this, Congress voted Major Rector ten thousand dollars with the thanks of the nation.

Major Rector was a Southern gentleman of the old type—genial, hospitable, honest, and courageous. His great fault was his fondness for drink. Aside from this, he was a most estimable man; he had much of the milk of human kindness in his warm nature. He kept open house, and his friends always found a cheery greeting.

### Test Questions.

Who was "The Fine Arkansas Gentleman"? Describe him.

Describe Little Rock when he came to it. Tell something of his family. What public offices did he hold? What was his greatest service to his country? What was the Major's great fault? Why was this evil more common in the early days?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Locate Florida. *Map of Arkansas.*—How far is it from Little Rock to Fort Smith?

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### ALBERT PIKE.

1809-1891.

In 1833 there was much excitement in Little Rock, and indeed throughout the territory, over some articles appearing in the *Advocate*, a Whig paper published at the capital. They were signed "Casca." Everyone was asking, "Who is Casca?" but nobody seemed to know. Some thought it was James Woodson Bates, who was known to be the ablest writer in Arkansas at that time; but this proved to be a mistake.

As the writer was a supporter of Whig principles, the leaders of that party were determined to find him. The great territorial secretary, Robert Crittenden, and Jesse Turner, afterwards a Supreme Court judge, learned the name of the author and went in search of him. They found him in an old-fashioned log school-house on Little Pine Creek below Van Buren; and lo! this wise man of the East (for he was from Massachusetts) was only a boy school-teacher. The Whig party was in need of every possible recruit, and these men rejoiced to find such a gifted champion. They soon arranged to have

this Yankee teacher go to Little Rock and be associate editor of the *Advocate*.

Albert Pike, for this was the young man's name, was one of the distinguished men of the nineteenth century. He saw most of that century pass; for he was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1809, and died in Washington, D. C., in 1891. What great changes took place in these years! The War of 1812 was fought; the Mexican War passed into history, with the result that an immense territory was acquired by our government; and the greatest civil war of the age was fought. During this period of fourscore years, the United States doubled her territory and developed from a weak nation to a world power.



ALBERT PIKE.

Mr. Pike was a self-taught and self-made man. When he was but four years old, his father moved from the city to a small town. Here he received an elementary education; and, at an academy not far distant, a high-school training. At fifteen he entered the freshman class

at Harvard College, in Cambridge, near Boston; but, for lack of means, he was compelled to leave college before the end of the year. He taught school and at the same time pursued his studies. At the opening of Harvard the next year, he passed both the freshman and sophomore examinations and was ready for the junior class. In twelve months he had done two years' college work in addition to his teaching. When he was told that he must pay tuition for his first two college years before entering the junior class, he refused to do so and left the institution. He taught school, and by private study he mastered the junior and senior courses, thus showing himself to be a young man of pluck as well as of ability.

His home life was not pleasant, and he resolved to go west as soon as possible. After teaching five years he started for the Pacific coast. At St. Louis he joined some pioneers and traveled with them awhile; then he started with a trapping party for Mexico. As he met with nothing but hardships, he turned back, and finally reached Fort Smith. It was the following year that Mr. Crittenden discovered him in the little log school-house.

At Little Rock, Mr. Pike found what he was seeking—an opportunity to do something. He wrote for the *Advocate*, set type, and read law. He had a remarkable mind and memory. His physical endurance was great, and he did an immense amount of work. He slept only five or six hours a day—a habit that lasted through life.

One less strongly constituted could not have endured what he did. He chose law as his profession; and so successful was he that in a short time he was able to build a home which, to this day, is one of the handsomest residences in the "City of Roses." In company with



ALBERT PIKE'S RESIDENCE AT LITTLE ROCK.

other pioneer lawyers, Pike traveled over the State, practicing in every county. He had much business also before the Supreme Court of the United States, to the bar of which he was admitted at the same time as was Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Pike was perhaps the most important Indian attorney in the United States. In a famous suit called the "Choctaw Case," his fee was three hundred

thousand dollars; but the government failed to pay the claim. Although he made much money, he never became wealthy. He was kind-hearted and generous; he could not refuse a call for help, and his charities kept him poor.

It was through the efforts of Mr. Pike that the first Pacific railroad was built. In 1855 he urged a Pacific railroad convention to take up the matter and push it through. Later, he spoke before the Louisiana legislature at Baton Rouge and obtained the passage of a charter for a Pacific railroad from New Orleans, with termini on the Pacific coast at San Francisco and at Guaymas, Mexico. Mr. Pike lived to see this road completed; and not only this, but many other railroad lines to the states on the Pacific coast.

As a soldier, Albert Pike served with distinction in the Mexican War, being a captain in Governor Yell's regiment. As he was a Southerner in his sympathies, he was loyal to Arkansas when she seceded from the Union. He joined the Confederate Army, was made a brigadier-general, and organized and commanded a brigade of Cherokee Indians. Because of his great influence with the Red Man, the Confederacy placed him at the head of the Indian Department and gave him power to make treaties. He succeeded in getting for the Confederacy the active support of some of the Indians, and in persuading others to remain neutral.



As a scholar, General Pike has had but few superiors in America. He was a thorough student of Latin and Greek, and he read with fluency French, Hebrew, and Sanscrit. He translated into English fifteen volumes of Aryan literature and wrote three books on Roman law. His best known prose works are on free masonry, and at the time of his death he ranked as the highest mason in the world. But it is through his poetry that he has reached all hearts; and boys and girls of the South should read his "Dixie," "To the Mocking Bird," and "Every Year." Had he devoted his entire time to poetry, doubtless he would have become widely known as an American poet.



ALBERT PIKE CONSISTORY AT  
LITTLE ROCK.

*Erected by Scottish Rite Masons of Arkansas and named in honor of General Pike.*

The last twenty-two years of his life were spent in Washington City, the latter half being devoted exclusively to study. His was an interesting home—he himself the center of interest. He had a magnificent library. He took special interest in birds; and, as his friends took

delight in sending him rare ones, birds of many lands  
“greeted him at morn and said good-bye at eve.”

One writer has described Mr. Pike in these words:  
“Albert Pike was a king among men by the divine right  
of merit—a giant in body and brain, in heart and soul.  
So majestic was he in appearance that wherever he  
moved, on highway or byway, the wide world over, every  
passer-by turned to gaze upon him—and admire him.  
\* \* \* His whole countenance told of power combined  
with tenderness, refinement, and benevolence.”

### Test Questions.

Tell the story of Albert Pike's first appearance in Arkansas.  
Give a sketch of his early career. How can a poor boy get an  
education? How did he make his way to the front at Little  
Rock? What profession did he choose? With what success?  
What did he do during the Mexican War? during the Civil  
War? In what other ways did Mr. Pike distinguish himself?  
Name some of his poems.

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Locate Cambridge (Mass.), St.  
Louis (Mo.). *Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Van Buren.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### ARCHIBALD YELL.

1797-1847.

When Judge Yell was once holding court in Arkansas, the sheriff told him that a certain criminal desired by the court could not be arrested because he was a notorious desperado.

“Where is he?” asked the judge.

“At one of the saloons in town,” was the sheriff’s reply.

“Then,” exclaimed the judge, “summon me, and show him to me.”

His command was promptly obeyed, and when the desperado was pointed out, Mr. Yell boldly marched up to him, seized him by the throat and shouted, “Come into court, and answer to your name and indictments against you.” The culprit, cowed into abject submission, obeyed the command without resistance. Such was the dauntless courage of this invincible man.

Mr. Yell was born in North Carolina, but at an early age he moved to Tennessee. He served with credit under General Jackson at the battle of New Orleans and in the

wars against the Creek and Seminole Indians. By his gallantry and almost reckless bravery, he won the affections of "Old Hickory," who was ever his firm friend.

Colonel Yell was an excellent story-teller and readily



THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS IN WHICH ARCHIBALD YELL SERVED UNDER GENERAL JACKSON.

made friends. He was full of pleasant humor and had a good word and a cheerful smile for every one. He had the happy faculty of remembering the name of every one he met and of making each feel that he was personally interested in him. And in truth he was; for he had a large sympathetic heart and loved his fellow men and believed in them. In all his dealings he was thoroughly honest and trustworthy. Never in his public life did he mislead or deceive the people.

In 1832 his old friend, President Jackson, appointed him receiver of public moneys of the Little Rock land-office; and he moved to Arkansas. He soon resigned this position and reëntered the practice of law, the profession that he had followed in Tennessee. Later President Jackson appointed him judge of the Superior Court; but Mr. Yell was fitted for a political rather than a judicial career. He became a very popular man in the Territory; and when Arkansas was admitted into the Union of States, he was chosen her first representative in Congress.

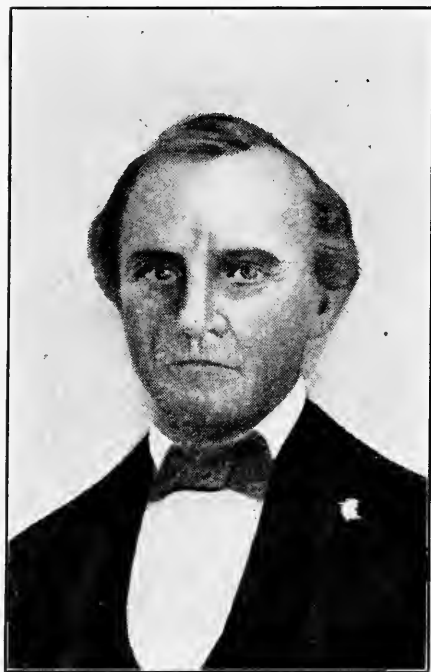
In 1840 Mr. Yell was elected governor of Arkansas, and proved himself firm and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. On one occasion his brother-in-law, Mr. Moore of Little Rock, presented to him a long petition asking for the appointment of a man to office. After reading the petition the Governor said that he could not make the appointment.

“What,” said Mr. Moore, “are you going to disregard the wishes of so many people?”

“Yes,” replied the Governor, “I will not appoint the man. As for the petition, I could secure before dark equally as many signatures to a petition to have you hanged.”

One of the most noted political contests in Arkansas was the campaign for Congress in 1844. The Whigs put forward as their candidate Judge David Walker of

Fayetteville. He was an able man and enjoyed the confidence of the whole State. The nomination confused the Democrats, and for a time they were at a loss what to do. After taking counsel, they decided that the only



ARCHIBALD YELL.

man in the State who could defeat Judge Walker was Archibald Yell. The convention, therefore, called upon Mr. Yell to resign the governorship and to accept the nomination for Congress. This he did. The two candidates were warm personal friends and neighbors, both residing at Fayetteville. Mr. Yell was a better campaigner than was Judge Walker, and he won the race. Judge Walker was

a man of quiet, dignified bearing, and he did not find it easy to mingle freely with the people in the manner of Ex-Governor Yell.

Two years later Mr. Yell figured in a different rôle. In 1845 the United States government annexed Texas. Mexico did not like this because Texas had been one of her provinces and had revolted and established her inde-

pendence from the mother country. Besides, the United States and Mexico could not agree upon what should be the southern boundary line of Texas. The United States insisted that it should be the Rio Grande River; and Mexico, the Nueces River. Thereupon the United States sent troops to occupy the disputed territory. This action provoked the Mexicans to attack them, and war followed.

The President, James K. Polk, called upon Arkansas



MAP OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

to furnish a regiment for cavalry service in this war. Arkansas was ablaze with excitement, for she was in thorough sympathy with the Texans. Volunteers flocked from all parts of the State in greater numbers than the

government could accept. As soon as war was declared, Mr. Yell left his seat in Congress to go to the front and was elected colonel of the Arkansas regiment. He had led his people in peace; now he was to lead them in war.

One of the companies in Colonel Yell's regiment was commanded by Albert Pike. The Arkansas troops took part in but one battle of the war—the battle of Buena Vista. In this battle the Mexicans greatly outnumbered their foe, but they were poorer fighters. General Taylor commanded the forces of the United States, and General



WITH GENERAL TAYLOR AT BUENA VISTA.

Santa Anna those of Mexico. Colonel Yell's regiment occupied the left wing of the army, which was so severely



attacked that it was forced to give way. Colonel Yell saw that the battle was likely to be lost. With thirty or forty of his bravest followers, he dashed into the thickest of the fight. He lost his life in the heroic attempt; but his efforts to check the enemy were partially successful and helped General Taylor finally to win the battle.

Colonel Yell was buried on the battle-ground. When the war was over, the regiment brought his body back with them, and it was interred at Fayetteville with appropriate honors.\*

\*In connection with Colonel Yell it is well to note an interesting story of another Arkansan in the Mexican War. He was a private and a faithful sentinel. Judge Pope tells the story as follows: "While the 'Division of the Center,' commanded by General Wool, was encamped opposite Monclova, the General and his staff were invited by the Spanish Mayor, or alcalde (äl-käl'dē), of the town to a banquet in the citadel. The festivities were kept up pretty late at night, and when the party attempted to cross the bridge spanning the river between the camp of the American army and the town, the sentinel, a long, lank Arkansan, barred the way with leveled musket and demanded the countersign. General Wool protested and stated in a very authoritative manner that he was General Wool, commanding the American forces, and that he insisted upon passing. The sturdy Arkansan brought his musket to a more threatening position and replied: 'I don't care if you are General Wool, General Jackson, or General George Washington, you can't pass here without the countersign.' The old General blustered and fumed considerably and talked about court-martial, and having the sentinel shot, and so forth. But the man on guard couldn't be overawed, nor intimidated, and the General and party had to remain seated upon their horses in a drenching rain until the relief guard arrived, and the officer of the watch recognized the General and supplied him with the countersign. The next morning General Wool sent for the sentinel of the night before and made him an orderly, and provided him with a new uniform and outfit."

### Test Questions.

Sketch the life of Mr. Yell before he entered politics in Arkansas. Describe the man. What was his first public service for Arkansas? How did he receive this position? What are the duties of such a position? What other political positions did he hold? How else did he serve his country? What was the cause of this war? Relate Colonel Yell's part in the war. What can you say of his burial place? Give an anecdote to illustrate Mr. Yell's firmness of character. Tell the story of the Arkansas sentinel.

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Locate North Carolina, Tennessee, New Orleans. *Map Showing Mexican Cessions*, p. 45, and *Map of Mexican War*, p. 209.—Locate Mexico, Texas, Buena Vista. Trace the Rio Grande River; the Nueces. Bound the disputed territory of the Mexican War.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

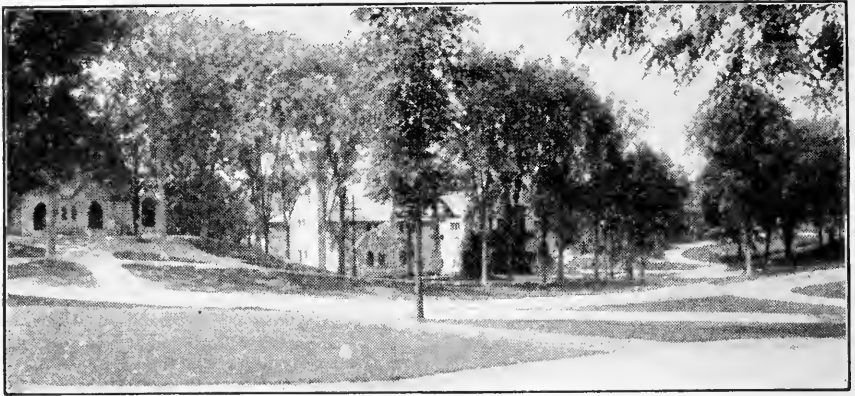
### CHESTER ASHLEY.

1791-1848.

“Go west, young man, go west, and grow up with the country,” was Mr. Greeley’s advice to the boys of New York. Indeed the East and the West have been mutually helpful in their relations. The Mississippi valley afforded an outlet for the over-crowded population of the East; and to the West, the East has been a constant mother, sending forth with her blessings her noblest sons and purest daughters.

We have seen that only a brave people will leave the comforts of old and settled communities and face the dangers and hardships of frontier life. The West knew many such people from the best families of the East, but she knew no one that was braver or nobler than Chester Ashley.

He was a New Englander, born at Amherst, Massachusetts, in 1791. He came from the land of the Puritans, that deeply religious sect which has given to our country so many good and strong men. His parents moved with him to New York, where he grew to manhood.



CAMPUS OF WILLIAMS COLLEGE, WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.,  
WHERE CHESTER ASHLEY WAS EDUCATED.

It was in this State that he began his education, passing through the elementary grades and the high school. He was afterwards graduated with honors from Williams College, in Massachusetts, and then took a law course at Litchfield, Connecticut, where was one of the foremost law schools of that day. He was in no hurry to enter his profession, for he waited till he was well prepared for his life-work—a good example for us all.

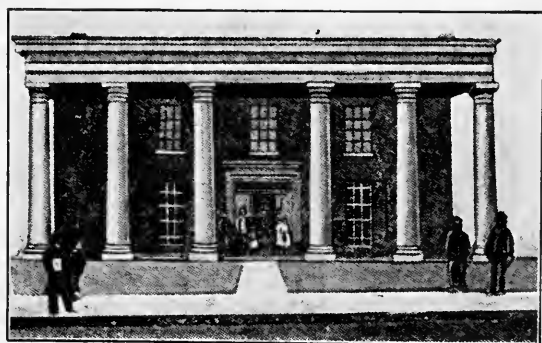
With an excellent education, our young friend left home and came west. He lived for more than a year in Illinois and Missouri. In 1820 he reached Little Rock—penniless and friendless. Yet he was rich, for he had something far more precious than silver or gold—a sound body, a trained mind, and a noble character. By good habits and close study he had accumulated this fortune. The temperate, industrious boy had developed into the

upright Christian gentleman. He found a real joy in living a sober, clean life. He had won greater victories than either Alexander or Napoleon—he had conquered himself.

Chester Ashley was all his life an untiring worker. Because in his boyhood he had trained himself to hard study, he found it easy to spend days and nights in patient toil over

law books and court reports. Such qualities as

he possessed compelled recognition. His promptness, courtesy, and ability attracted the attention of the



THE OLD ASHLEY MANSION AT  
LITTLE ROCK.

people, and he soon took his place among the foremost lawyers of the Territory. But his success did not cause him to relax his energies; he persevered all the more.

Within a few years after his arrival, Mr. Ashley was looked upon as the ablest lawyer in Arkansas, though among his opponents at the bar were such men as Crittenden, Pike, and Fowler. For a time he and Mr. Crittenden were partners; but when Mr. Crittenden's aspirations led him into politics, Mr. Ashley withdrew from the partnership. Mr. Ashley likewise had political am-

bitions, but he had determined to have an independent fortune before trying to fulfill them. With his usual self-control, he carried out this determination with unerring firmness. Great singleness of purpose was one of the distinguishing elements in his character. He never attempted too many things at one time, for he believed in concentrating his energies. For twenty years he had



COAT OF ARMS OF THE ASHLEY  
FAMILY.

the largest law practice in the State. The whole of Arkansas was his circuit, and he had business before every court. By 1844 he had accomplished the first part of his plans: he had acquired much wealth. Then he was ready for politics.

The opportunity for success in politics was at hand, and Mr. Ashley was quick to perceive it. 1844 was the

year in which to elect a president of the United States. The Democratic party was in favor of annexing Texas and of taking possession of Oregon, and its presidential

candidate was James K. Polk. The Whig party was rather timid in asserting its views on public questions; but its candidate was the great statesman, Henry Clay.

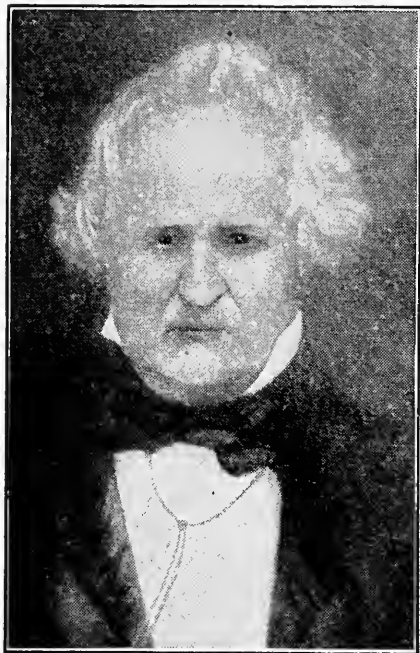
Mr. Ashley believed in the principles of the Democratic party, and threw himself into the campaign with much fervor and canvassed the entire State, speaking at all important points. So strong were his arguments on the tariff question that the talented representative of the Whigs, Mr. Arrington, was convinced of the error of his party and left the field. Mr. Mercer, a distinguished Virginian, hearing Mr. Ashley speak, said of him, "I have met able men in Congress from Arkansas, but none of the distinguished ability of your fellow citizen, Colonel Ashley. I am astonished that a gentleman of such commanding abilities is not in the council of the nation."

The result of the election was a great Democratic victory, not only in Arkansas, but in the entire United States. To Mr. Ashley was given the credit of the marked Democratic success in Arkansas.

When the legislature met the same fall to fill the vacancy in the United States Senate caused by the death of Mr. Fulton, Mr. Ashley was elected almost without opposition. Thus at one bound he secured one of the highest offices in the gift of the people, though he had never held office before.

Mr. Ashley is said to have been "the handsomest man in the Senate." He was a tall, commanding figure, of

very pleasing manners. Arkansas may well be proud of her representatives in Congress at this date, 1845; A. H.



CHESTER ASHLEY.

Sevier, Chester Ashley, and Archibald Yell—a trio of able men. Mr. Sevier was chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, an especially important committee at that time, as the United States was at war with Mexico. Mr. Ashley, soon after entering the Senate, was made Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, an unusual honor for a new member.

Mr. Yell represented us in the House of Representatives. Perhaps at no other time has Arkansas been so ably represented at Washington or wielded so powerful an influence in the nation.

Mr. Ashley's first speech in the Senate was on the annexation of Texas, and it was pronounced the most forceful speech delivered on that subject. He was reëlected to the Senate in 1846, but two years later in the Senate Chamber he was stricken with an illness from which he suddenly died. He had become a most valuable member



of the Senate, and his death was a blow not only to his family and his State, but to his nation as well.

He was one of a trio of Arkansas' strongest public servants who died within a year of one another. The other two were A. H. Sevier and Judge Benjamin Johnson. All three came to the Territory about the same time; and in building up their own fortunes, they had helped to make Arkansas a great state.

### Test Questions.

Sketch the early life of Mr. Ashley. Why has New England produced so many strong men? In what way was Mr. Ashley rich when he first came to Little Rock? Can every boy get that kind of wealth? Is it worth the trouble? Why? What victory had he won that was greater than any of Napoleon's? Explain and illustrate your answer.

What was Mr. Ashley's profession and reputation in Arkansas? Give the story of his political career. What famous trio represented Arkansas in Congress in 1845? What three distinguished Arkansans died within a year of each other?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Where is Connecticut? New England? New York? Illinois? Massachusetts? Virginia? The national Capital?

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### ROBERT WARD JOHNSON.

1814-1879.

Of that noted family of Kentuckians of whom we have already read, Robert Ward Johnson continued the fame of his father and honored a name many times honored in the annals of Arkansas and the Nation.

After being graduated with the highest honors from St. Joseph College, at Bardstown, Kentucky, he studied law at Yale University (New Haven, Connecticut). He inherited a bent for politics and cultivated this family trait during his residence at college. There he was under the care of his uncle, Richard M. Johnson, who served his country as Congressman for twenty-nine years and as Vice-President of the United States for four years.

Young Johnson delighted in a political contest. He put up a spirited fight, and it was always a manly one. His opponents dreaded him; for he was able, fearless, and outspoken. Arkansas has seen but few party leaders his equal. He showed his ability as a Democratic leader in 1840 and again, two years later, in the contest for repre-

sentative from Pulaski County, which was strongly Whig. He added to his popularity by the successful prosecution of a notorious gang of counterfeitters in Little Rock. His superb generalship as a party leader and his fearlessness as a prosecuting attorney made him extremely popular, and in 1846 he was elected to Congress. Mr. Johnson was prosecuting attorney for Pulaski County for four years; attorney-general for two years, a member of the lower house of Congress for six years, and a United States Senator for seven years.

It was during the thirteen years immediately preceding the Civil War that he was in Congress; and it was during his term as Senator that the hottest part of that great quarrel between the North and the South took place. The difference between the two sections became so sharp that even the leading churches divided on the slavery question into Northern and Southern branches.



ROBERT W. JOHNSON.

In the South, slavery was a fixed institution, as the slaves could be worked with profit on large plantations

where great crops of corn, rice, or cotton were raised. In the North, on account of the cold climate, agriculture was not the chief business, and slave labor was unprofitable. The Northern States had therefore abolished slavery, and the people had come to look upon it as a great evil. They wrote against slavery and spoke against it. This they thought they had a right to do because liberty of speech was allowed in our country. But the Southern people resented such a course as interfering with their affairs; and they called the Northerners meddlers.

Besides this, the two sections quarreled over the Federal territory. In 1803, by the Louisiana purchase, the United States had acquired large territories west of the Mississippi; and to this territory another large one was added in 1845 and 1848 by the annexation of Texas and the Mexican War. The question was, "Should slaves be allowed in this territory?" The North said, "No"; the South said, "Yes." The North claimed that Congress had a right to keep slaves out of any territory belonging to the United States, while the South said that she had as much right to carry her slaves into this territory as the North had to carry her horses. The quarrel was long and bitter, as each party was in earnest. Both lost their temper at times, and each said many hard things about the other.

Effort after effort was made to settle the differences

peaceably. As far back as 1820 an agreement was made to divide the disputed territory between the two sec-



THE UNITED STATES IN 1850, DIVIDED OVER THE QUESTION OF SLAVERY.

tions, and a line was run from east to west at 36°, 30'; that is, along the northern boundary of Arkansas. Congress agreed that north of this line, except in Missouri, there should be no slaves. It was understood that south of the line slavery should be permitted. This agreement, introduced by Henry Clay, was known as the Missouri Compromise. It did not suit the extremists of either side; so the quarrel waxed warm again, and in 1854 Congress organized Kansas and Nebraska as territories, allowing the people who lived there to decide whether or not they would have slaves. This was a repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and at once a bitter struggle between the sections began again. Neither side would yield, and the inevitable result was war.

In 1860, the Republican party nominated Abraham

Lincoln of Illinois for President; the Democratic party, being divided in opinion, put out two candidates, Senator Stephen A. Douglas representing the Northern wing and John C. Breckenridge, the Southern. Mr. Lincoln was elected.

The Southern States were indignant, and they with-



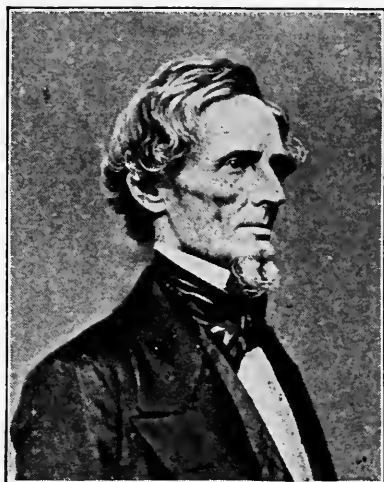
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

drew from the Union. The Union or central government had stood for almost three-quarters of a century, but there had always been a difference of opinion with reference to the extent of its powers. Some claimed that the central government was supreme; others that the state was the highest authority. The Northern States thought that a

state had no right to secede; but the Southern States believed firmly that this right did exist, and in accordance with this view eleven states withdrew from the Union. These were South and North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Ten-

nessee, Texas, Arkansas, and Virginia. These states formed a new union called the Confederate States of America, and selected Richmond, Virginia, as the capital. They adopted a new flag and elected Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, President.

As Arkansas was a Southern slave state, her views on slavery were similar to those of her sister states. But the Union sentiment was strong here, and her people loved the national government and wished to be faithful to it. Arkansas was among the last to withdraw



JEFFERSON DAVIS.

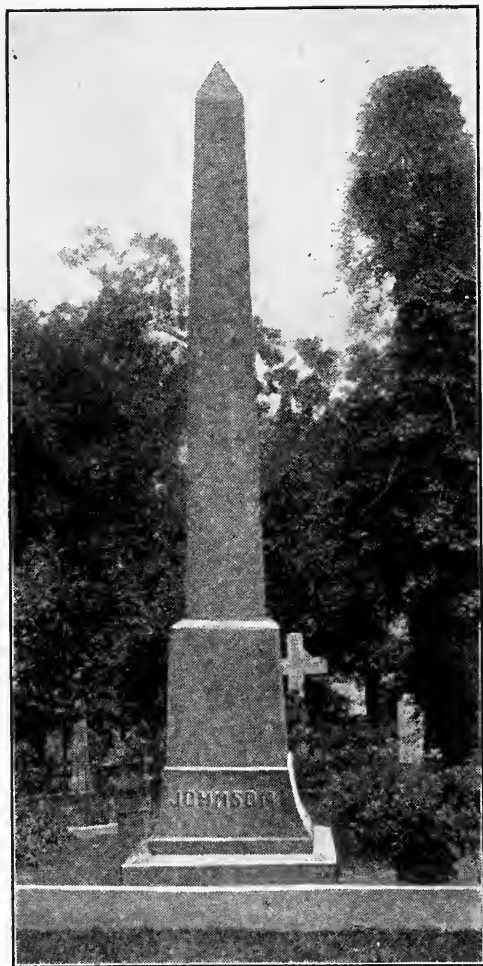
from the Union. Her legislature asked the people to elect a convention to decide what she should do. They selected a body of conservative men, the best in the State; and the convention met March 4th, 1861. These men postponed their decision for awhile, hoping that all differences might be peaceably settled. But this could not be done.

President Lincoln believed that secession was wrong. He believed also that it was his sworn duty to preserve the Union; that is, to prevent secession. So in April he called for seventy-five thousand soldiers. All hope for

peace was now abandoned; war was inevitable. Arkansas was forced to accept the issue and to fight either for

the Union or for the Confederate States. Her decision was to join the Confederacy.

Robert W. Johnson realized, as far back as 1854, what would be the result of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; and in the United States Senate he did all he could to prevent it. When Mr. Lincoln was elected President, he thought that the South ought to secede. On his return to Arkansas he advised this course. After Arkansas had joined the Confederacy, Mr. Johnson was



TOMB OF R. W. JOHNSON AT  
LITTLE ROCK.

sent to the Confederate Congress as Senator, and this position he held throughout the war.



As soon as peace had been made, he returned to his plantation in Jefferson County. The war had cost him dearly, for it had left him heavily in debt. For two years he worked heroically to pay off his debts and to save his large plantation. Failing in this, he turned it over to his creditors; and at the age of fifty-three, he began life again, a poor man. He moved to Washington City and formed a law partnership with Albert Pike. This relationship continued until 1878, when he returned to Little Rock, where he died the following year.

### Test Questions.

Sketch the career of Robert W. Johnson before 1846. To what office was he then elected? How long did he serve in this capacity? Why did he not continue in it? Who were the parties in this struggle? What were the points of contention? Why did slavery exist in the South? Why had it been abolished in the North? What is meant by "Federal territory"? Over what Federal territory did the slavery agitation begin? What difference of view did the two sections take in regard to the Federal territory? Why? What efforts had been made to settle the quarrel? Why were they not successful? What side did the Republicans take? the Democrats? What candidates for President did these parties put up in 1860? What was the immediate cause of the war? What is secession? What was the attitude of Arkansas towards slavery and secession?

### Map Questions.

*Map of the United States.*—Point to each of the states of the Confederacy. Point to the state that gave the Republican

candidate for President in 1860; the Democratic candidate; the President of the Confederacy. Where is Richmond? Show on the map the territory from which slavery was excluded by the Missouri Compromise. Point to the states for which the Missouri Compromise was repealed. Locate the Union capital; the capital of the Confederacy. Show on the map the territory whose annexation opened the agitation about slavery.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### ARKANSANS TO ARMS.

1861-1865.

In 1861, after Arkansas had seceded, the Military Board of the State called for ten thousand volunteers to defend us against "the invading horde from the North." "To arms! To arms!" was the trumpet blast. Runners all over the State bore the news of war and aroused the people to arms. In every hamlet and village soldiers were mustered in. Men paraded the streets, bonfires were lighted, and stirring speeches were made. Young orators delivered with burning zeal the fiery speech of Patrick Henry, "Give me liberty or give me death"; and the new Confederate flag was unfurled amidst the deafening shouts of the multitude. The war spirit ran high. So intense was the feeling that it became dangerous to express sympathy for the general government, although the Union sentiment had been strong only a few days before.



FLAG OF THE  
CONFEDERACY.

The people were led to believe that one Southerner could whip five Yankees. They were told that the Northerners would not fight; that they could not even handle a gun. One enthusiastic fellow at Searcy said that he could take the school girls and go out on a neighboring hill and keep back all the Yankees. Doubtless he changed his opinion of their fighting qualities before the close of the war.

Enlistment went on rapidly. Speeches were not needed to spur on the people. Companies were rapidly formed; regiments, hastily organized; and batteries, quickly constructed. From all parts of the State these poorly armed and crudely organized bands hurried to the front, concentrating at Arkadelphia,

Pine Bluff, Yellville, Springfield, and Little Rock. Before the end of the year Arkansas had sent to the front thirty thousand volunteers, nearly half her voting population; and before the close of the war, she added about twenty thousand more.



FLAG OF THE UNION.

But there was sadness as well as gladness in these preparations for war. At the parting hour, even the bravest heart lost courage as he realized

“the weight and woe of his errand.” Love struggled with duty; and the most manly could not repress the sigh, the most courageous, restrain the tear. The heroic wife, the sacrificing mother, the noble sister and sweetheart, with a “God bless you!” sent their loved ones into the awful dangers of war. How doubly dear did they seem as they marched away! As the tramp, tramp, tramp, grew fainter and fainter, these resolute women stood valiantly waving their last farewell, seeing but dimly through the mist of tears. Ah! for so many, this was indeed the last farewell.

Days of suspense followed. Days lengthened into weeks, weeks into months, and months into years; and yet too often there was no news from the dear ones at the front. Perchance it was the soldier on furlough who brought the first message. Though painful to him, it was often his duty to tell the anxious wife, of her husband’s death at Shiloh; the trusting girl, of her hero’s death while charging a battery at Chickamauga; and the poor old father, of a son who had died of lingering disease in prison. Oh, the heartaches, the sorrows of those days! So many homes were destroyed, so many hearts were broken, and so many



A CONFEDERATE  
SOLDIER.

hopes were blasted. War is terrible, carrying death and destruction in its path.

For four long years these trying times continued.



A UNION SOLDIER.

There was much suffering from lack of food. The invading Northern armies often burned the home and destroyed the crops. What they did not destroy, they took away; and women and children were left without food or shelter. The enemy blockaded the coasts of the Confederate States and allowed nothing to be shipped in. It was almost impossible to get medicines. The women spun the thread and wove the cloth for their families. Hats and shoes could scarcely be had at any price. Coffee, tea, and meats were luxuries enjoyed only by the few. In 1863 a turkey was worth twenty dollars,

and a sheep fifty dollars in Confederate money. Sassafras tea was the chief beverage. Coffee was often made of parched okra seeds, parched rye, or sweet potatoes cooked to a crisp. Salt also was a rare article. Indeed, be-

fore long it could scarcely be had at any price. At times the people were compelled to make their own salt. This they did by a crude device. During certain seasons they hung their meat in their "smoke-houses." The drippings from this meat thoroughly saturated the ground below with salt. They dug up this dirt, cast it into a vessel with a perforated bottom, placed this vessel over another



PAPER MONEY ISSUED BY THE CONFEDERACY.

and poured water on the dirt. This dissolved the salt and carried it into the vessel below. The water then evaporated and left the salt.

The Southern soldiers wore the gray and were called Confederates; the Northern soldiers wore the blue and were called Federals or Unionists. The Union soldiers called the Confederates "Johnnies" or rebels, while they in turn were called "Yankees," or "Yanks" for brief.

The Civil War developed many great generals on each side. Among the distinguished Federal generals were

Grant, Sheridan, Sherman, McClellan, Mead, Hooker, Thomas, Farragut, Burnside, and Rosecrans. Among the Confederates were Lee, Jackson, the two Johnstons, Bragg, Beauregard, Forrest, Longstreet, and Cleburne.

## THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.

BY F. M. FINCH.

By the flow of the inland river,  
Whence the fleets of iron have fled,  
Where the blades of the grave-grass quiver,  
Asleep are the ranks of the dead:—  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Under the one, the Blue,  
Under the other, the Gray.

These in the robings of glory,  
Those in the gloom of defeat,  
All with the battle-blood gory,  
In the dust of eternity meet:—  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Under the laurel, the Blue,  
Under the willow, the Gray.

From the silence of sorrowful hours,  
The desolate mourners go,



Lovingly laden with flowers,  
Alike for the friend and the foe:—  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;—  
Under the roses, the Blue,  
Under the lilies, the Gray.

\* \* \* \* \*

No more shall the war-cry sever,  
Or the winding rivers be red;  
They banish our anger forever,  
When they laurel the graves of our dead!  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Love and tears for the Blue,  
Tears and love for the Gray.

### Test Questions.

Describe the call to arms; the preparation for war. What erroneous ideas of the Northerners did the Southern people have? Name the places at which troops gathered. How many men went to the front from Arkansas?

Why were food and medicines scarce? What is meant by blockade? What did people use as substitutes for coffee? sugar? How did they get salt? By what name was the Southern soldier called? the Northern? Who were some of the noted generals on each side? Can war be justified? Does more good or evil result from it? In what sense is war a school?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Searcy, Arkadelphia, Pine Bluff, Yellville, Springfield. *Map of War in the West*, p. 246.—Shiloh (Tenn.), Chickamauga (Tenn.).

## CHAPTER XXIX.

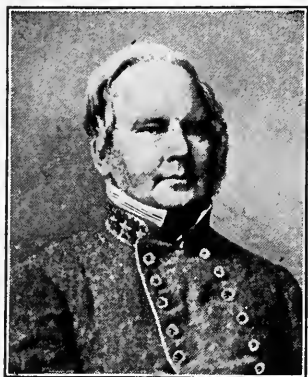
### DISTINGUISHED ARKANSAS SOLDIERS.

1861-1865.

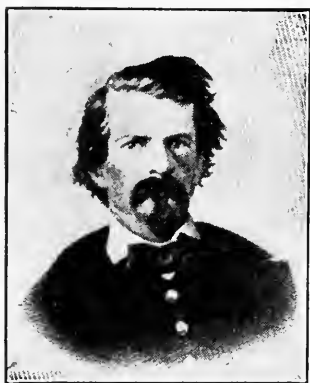
The Arkansas troops made a record creditable alike to themselves and to their State. They fought bravely on nearly every battle-ground in the West, and on many in the East. Some of the men who enlisted in 1861 crossed the Mississippi and took part in the great struggles in Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia and Virginia; while others marched through the northwestern part of our State where they joined the forces of Generals McCulloch and Price. In that section many of the Arkansas troops spent the winter of 1861 and 1862. In the meantime Federal troops had collected there.

The first battle in Arkansas was fought March 7, 1862, at Elkhorn, or Pea Ridge, in Benton County. General Van Dorn was in command of the Confederate forces, fifteen thousand strong, and General Curtis, of the Federals, numbering about twenty thousand. This battle has been called the Buena Vista of the Civil War. Van Dorn said of his soldiers: "The Old Guard of Napoleon was not composed of better men. I have never in

battle seen their equals." The Confederates held the field, but they paid dearly for their partial victory in the loss of General McCulloch and Colonel McIntosh.



STERLING PRICE.



EARL VAN DORN.

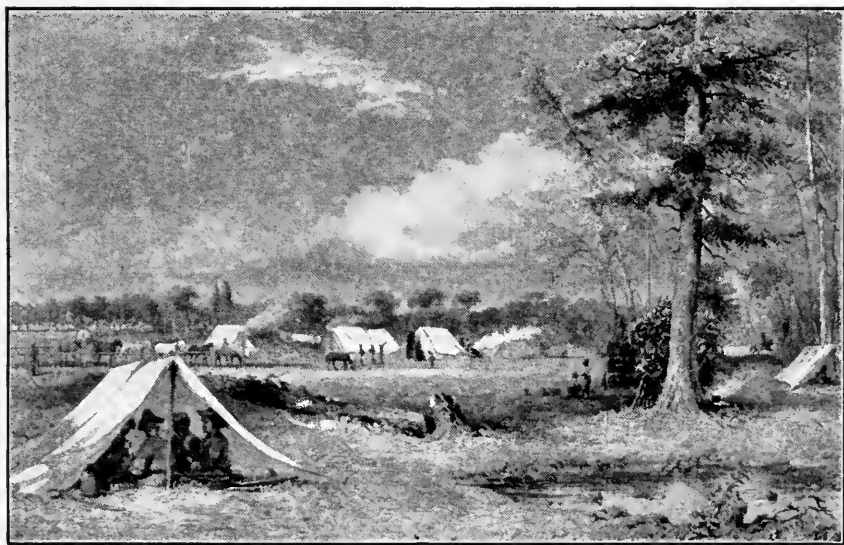
General McCulloch was a Tennessean by birth. Though a poor boy, he had pushed himself to the front. After going to Texas, he joined the "Texas Rangers," a body of horsemen noted for their dash and daring. He distinguished himself in the Mexican War. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted in the service of the Confederate States and was made brigadier-general. A successful career at arms was opening before him when death suddenly cut it short.

James McIntosh was captain in the United States army at the outbreak of the war. He resigned and enlisted in the Confederate service as colonel of the

Second Arkansas Mounted Rifles. At Pea Ridge he stood next in rank to General McCulloch; and when that officer fell, he took his place. He was bravely leading a charge on the Federal lines when he was shot. Colonel McIn-

tosh had the qualities of a leader; and, had he lived, he might have been classed with Cleburne and Hindman.

After the battle of Pea Ridge, General Van Dorn moved south. He was soon ordered to take his army to Corinth east of the Mississippi. This left Arkansas unprotected, as there was at that time no Confederate army in the State. The Federal general, Curtis took ad-



A CONFEDERATE CAVALRY CAMP.

vantage of the situation and marched across north Arkansas to Batesville. Thence he intended to lead his forces against Little Rock; but, meeting with a slight repulse at Cotton Plant, he changed his plans, marched to Helena, and occupied that town.

Meanwhile General Hindman had been ordered to

come to Arkansas and to raise an army for the protection of the State. He organized and drilled a strong force. While he was doing this, General Blount marched a Federal army into north Arkansas. General Hindman met him December 7, 1862, at Prairie Grove in Washington County, where the second important battle in Arkansas was fought. It was a desperate contest. The Federals were driven from the field; but, as General



THOMAS C. HINDMAN.

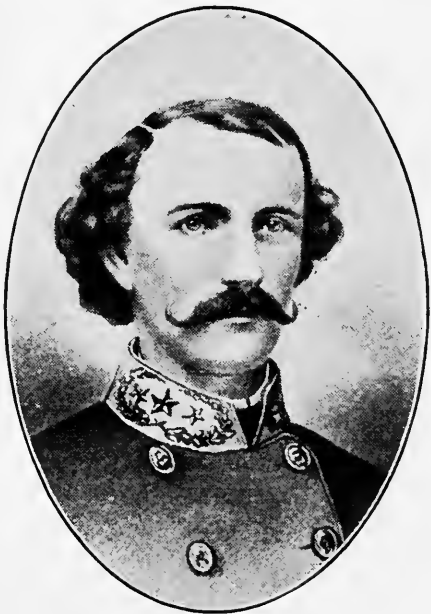
Hindman's supplies gave out, he withdrew south of the Arkansas River.

General T. C. Hindman came to Arkansas from Mississippi in 1854 and located at Helena. There he began the practice of law. He preferred politics and was a bold champion of the Democratic party.

He was an eloquent speaker and one of the ablest campaigners and party leaders of the State. He might be called the orator of secession in Arkansas. His rise was rapid. He was elected to Congress in 1858 and again in 1860; but he resigned his seat at the beginning of the war, and went out as colonel of the Second Arkansas Infantry. In a short while he became major-general. Soon after the battle of Prairie Grove, he was ordered east of the Mississippi, where he remained till the close of the

war. Hindman was an able general and a man of great physical courage. He was assassinated at his home in Helena in 1868, while engaged in a hot political campaign.

Another Arkansas man who went into the army as colonel and came back as major-general, was Thomas J. Churchill. He was in command at Arkansas Post when that place was captured in 1863 by General McClellan and Admiral Porter. General Holmes, who had succeeded General Hindman as commander in the State, telegraphed General Churchill: "Hold till help arrives, or till all are dead." General Churchill did hold out bravely for two days, but he finally yielded to an overwhelming force. He was taken prisoner, but was later exchanged. In 1880 he was chosen governor and served two terms. He died in 1905.



THOMAS J. CHURCHILL.

Three other Arkansas officers—Patrick Cleburne, James F. Fagan, and Evander McNair—became major-generals. Many minor officers were distinguished for

their gallantry. Major W. E. Woodruff, Junior, was our ablest artilleryman.

The most important event of the third year of the war in Arkansas was the occupation of Little Rock by Federal troops. After General Holmes had made a vain attempt to retake Helena, General Steele of the Federal army began to march toward the Capital. On the way he met only slight resistance. As he approached the city, General Price, who had succeeded General Holmes, retreated south. He felt unable to resist an attack. General Steele entered Little Rock without opposition September 10, 1863. This practically ended the war in Arkansas. While the contest went on a year and a half longer in other parts of the South, there was scarcely any more fighting in this State.

However, two military forces occupied the State, dividing it almost equally. The Confederates held the country to the south of the Arkansas River; and the Federals, that to the north. Fort Smith, Van Buren, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Fayetteville, Batesville, and Helena were in the hands of the Federals, who controlled the Arkansas River. The people throughout the State suffered much from robbers and murderers. Marauding bands wandered over the country, plundering, stealing, and killing. No power in the State could properly protect life and property.

You remember that Arkansas was reluctant to secede



because of the strong Union feeling in the State. Many of those favoring the Union remained loyal to the central government all during the war. Some of the Unionists left the State for safety, as it was dangerous for a man to express loyal sentiments. After the Federals had occupied north Arkansas, these people felt freer because the army gave them protection. Many refugees returned to the State, and about five thousand white persons and as many negroes enlisted in the Union army.

### Test Questions.

What record was made by the Arkansas troops? Where did the Arkansas troops fight? What commands were collected in northwest Arkansas? Name the places in the State at which battles occurred. Give the leading facts concerning the battle of Pea Ridge. Sketch the career of General McCulloch; of McIntosh. Where did Van Dorn go after the battle of Pea Ridge? What was the fortune of Arkansas Post? Give an account of the battle of Prairie Grove. Name the most noted generals on Arkansas ground. Give a sketch of General Hindman's career; of General Churchill's. What part in the war did Little Rock play? How many men enlisted from Arkansas in the Confederate army? in the Federal army? Why the difference? Why did not the Union men enlist at the beginning of the war?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Pea Ridge, Batesville, Prairie Grove, Cotton Plant, Van Buren, Fayetteville. Trace on the map the route of General Curtis in going from Pea Ridge to Helena. Show the parts of Arkansas controlled after September, 1863, by the Confederates; by the Federals.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### PATRICK CLEBURNE.

THE "STONEWALL JACKSON OF THE WEST."

1828-1864.

Of the great Confederate generals, Jackson stands next to Lee in the affections of the Southern people. They admire his wonderful generalship and love his beautiful, unselfish Christian character. His name is a priceless heritage, not only to the South, but to the Nation. He was Lee's "right arm." He was as quick as lightning and as terrible as thunder. He ranks as one of the most brilliant and most daring military chieftains of history. It was his courage that saved the day at Manassas in Virginia and won for him the title "Stonewall." Virginia gave to the Confederacy the "Stonewall Jackson of the East"; but Arkansas has the honor of having furnished a soldier of similar fame, the "Stonewall Jackson of the West."

The man, who was thus distinguished in American history, was Patrick Cleburne (clāy'-bûrn). He was born in 1828, in Cork, Ireland. His father was highly edu-

eated and would have given his son an excellent education, had not death prevented. Young Cleburne wished to be a druggist, but he could not get a license, as the law in his country required all applicants to be examined in Latin and Greek. Failing in this, he entered the English army. Soon afterward he came to America, where he found employment in a drug-store at Cincinnati, Ohio.

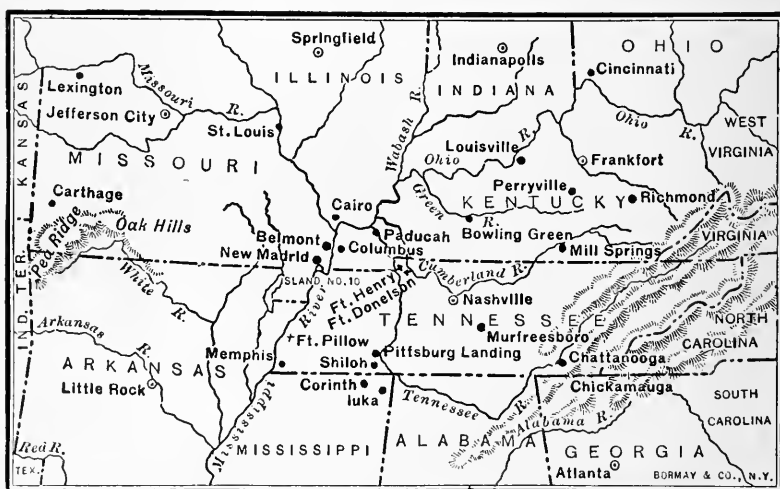
While there, a drug firm of Helena, Arkansas, sent to his employers for a clerk. Mr. Cleburne was asked to take the position. He came to Helena in 1850, when he was twenty-two years old. He worked a month on trial; soon, on account of his honesty and ability, he was given the entire management of the business. Later he became a partner. One evening by mere accident, at a meeting of the Masonic Lodge, he discovered his powers as a public speaker. He sold his interests in the drug-store for three thousand dollars and began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar and at the outbreak of the war was a rising young lawyer.



PATRICK CLEBURNE.

Patrick Cleburne was among the first from Arkansas

to volunteer for the Confederate army. He entered as a private in a company called the "Yell Rifles," but was soon made captain. He showed such skill in managing men that he was promoted to brigadier-general; and before the close of 1862 he rose to the rank of major-general. Arkansas troops made up most of his brigade and division. He loved his men and cared for them; they in turn were devoted to him. They would go wherever he led. In almost every important battle in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, Cleburne and his troops were to be found.



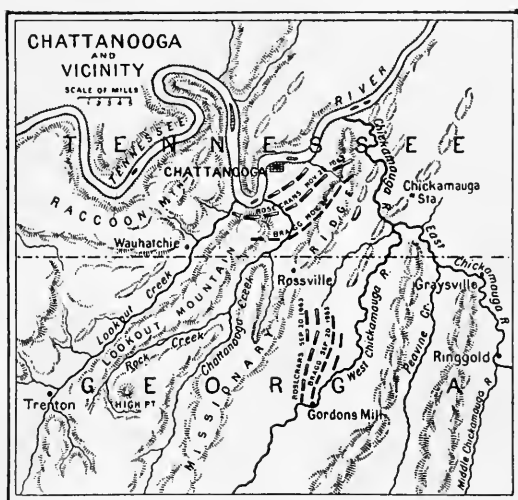
MAP SHOWING BATTLEFIELDS OF THE WEST.

At Shiloh he was in the hottest of the fight, and his brigade suffered more than any other engaged. At Richmond, Kentucky, he was severely wounded while leading

a successful assault; at Perryville, a horse was shot under him.

It was in the battle of Chickamauga in Tennessee that he won his proudest laurels. This was one of the most sharply contested struggles of the war, and there were great deeds of valor on both sides. Here it was that General Thomas of the Federal army won the name of "Rock of Chickamauga," and General Cleburne that of "Stonewall Jackson of the West."

The Confederates had repeatedly assaulted an important point on the Federal lines, and as repeatedly been repulsed with great loss. Late in the afternoon Cleburne was ordered to take the point. "We'll attend to them," was the remark of the Arkansas boys as they came on the battle-field. All were undaunted and self-possessed, some carelessly smoking. But grim determination was stamped on every brow; for they stood facing the ground where hundreds of their companions in arms had fallen during the day. It was "theirs to do or die."

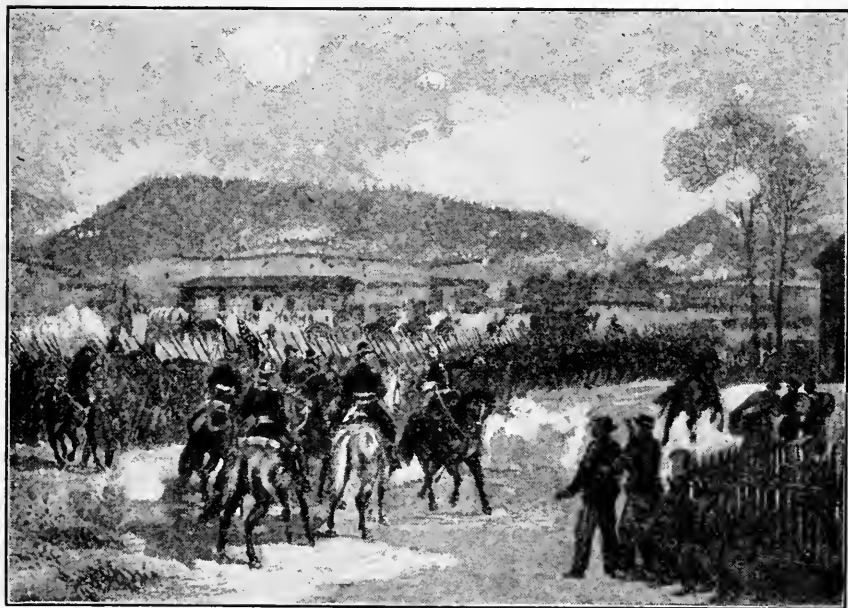


When General Cleburne rose to his full height and thundered the command to charge, every man, with the deafening "rebel yell," leaped to the attack. Though hundreds were mowed down by the deadly fire of musketry and cannon, his brave men rushed on, sweeping everything before them. Within fifteen minutes they had captured the Federal position and had taken eight hundred prisoners. They stood the conquerors and the heroes of Chickamauga.

Perhaps the greatest services rendered by Cleburne to the Confederacy were at Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. At Missionary Ridge, his division was stationed at the right of the line. In the afternoon, the center was broken, and the center and the left wing became panic-stricken and fled. Cleburne and his men, ignorant of the flight of their comrades, resisted all attacks until late in the afternoon. Then the general learned of the rout of the rest of the army; and, withdrawing his troops, he placed them between the retreating Confederates and the victorious foe. At Ringgold Gap in Tennessee, he held the Federal army at bay for a whole day, thus allowing the Southern army time to withdraw in safety. The Confederate Congress gave him a vote of thanks for his heroic conduct in saving the army from destruction. He distinguished himself also at Kennesaw Mountain. It was while he was gallantly

leading an assault at Franklin, Tennessee, November 30, 1864, that he was killed.

At the time of his death he was engaged to be married. He was buried near Franklin in the private burying-ground of Ex-President Polk. After the war the Ladies' Memorial Association of Helena removed his remains to the Confederate cemetery at that place.



CLEBURNE'S DEFENSE OF RINGGOLD GAP.

Cleburne was one of the great military leaders of the war. On the battle-field he was fearless and self-possessed; he gave his orders with calmness even at the cannon's mouth. Yet he could assault with the dash of the illustrious Jackson. His superiors always placed him at

the front in an attack, and at the rear on a retreat. His brigade was called the "Terrible," and Cleburne himself was styled "The Lionhearted." General Hardee said of him, "When his division defended, no odds could break his lines; when it attacked, no numbers resisted its onslaught, save once—and there is the grave of Cleburne."

General Cleburne was as great in peace as he was in war. He was true to his friends. On several occasions he risked his life to save that of a friend. For weeks he lay dangerously ill from a wound that he had received while defending General Hindman. His very presence was elevating, as he was pure in speech and habits. He never used profane or improper language, nor would he permit others to do so in his presence. His heart was full of love for his fellow-man, and he was generous and self-sacrificing to a fault. In politics he was a Democrat; in religion, an Episcopalian.

During the yellow fever epidemic in Helena before the war, many people became alarmed and left the town. The doctors called for nurses, and for a while it seemed as if no one would respond to the call. Mr. Cleburne and Mr. Hindman volunteered their services. All through the long continuance of the yellow fever epidemic, these men went from house to house nursing the sick and burying the dead.

In 1865, in less than a year after General Cleburne's



death, the terrible Civil War ended. The Federal forces were victorious, not because they were braver than the Southerners, but because they were far superior in numbers and equipment. The war decided that a state cannot secede, and that slavery should be abolished in the United States.

### Test Questions.

Give a sketch of the early life of Patrick Cleburne; of his promotions in the Confederate army. In what battles was he famous? What nickname was given him? Why was it appropriate? Illustrate this by an account of his work on some battlefield. What was the end of his career? Where is his grave? What did General Hardee say of him?

Tell something of Cleburne's life, as a civilian in Arkansas. What were the noble qualities of his character?

### Map Questions.

*Map of War in the West*, p. 246.—Locate Cincinnati, Perryville, Shiloh, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Ringgold Gap, Kennesaw Mountain, Franklin, Richmond. *Map of Arkansas*.—Locate Helena.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### THE "CARPET-BAGGER."

1868-1874.

When the war closed in 1865, the armies of the Confederacy and of the United States were disbanded and the soldiers returned home. Since the war had been waged chiefly in the South, no destruction of property had taken place in the North, and the victorious Federal soldiers on returning home found their families living with their usual comforts. Not so with the foot-sore Confederates—who so often found ashes and ruins in place of the planter's mansion left in 1861. Their houses had been burned, their fields laid waste; their slaves had been freed, and their government overturned. But they did not become discouraged; they went to work and tried to retrieve their lost fortunes. They had fought bravely for what they thought was right, and just as bravely did they now labor for the necessities of life. Men and women who had never known common toil cheerfully accepted the inevitable and did all kinds of manual labor.

The work of reorganizing the government was begun in Arkansas sooner than in the other Southern states; for the war practically closed here in 1863 when General

Steele occupied Little Rock. Early in 1864 the people who were loyal to the Union took steps to organize a loyal State government. Isaac Murphy, the only man



A DESERTED PLANTATION AFTER THE WAR.

who had voted against secession in the convention of 1861, was chosen governor.

During the remainder of the war there were two governments in Arkansas; the Union State government at Little Rock under the direction of Governor Murphy, and the Confederate State government at Washington, Arkansas, under the direction of Governor Flanagan. The Arkansas River divided the territory of these two governments. At the close of the war the Confederate government was discontinued, and Governor Murphy was left at the head of the State.

He endeavored to restore good feeling and prosperity. He welcomed home the Confederate soldiers. He merely asked them to renew their allegiance to the Federal government; and, on taking the oath of allegiance to the United States, they were allowed to return to their work in peace. For three years all went well. The governor was honest and capable—a worthy executive. When he retired in 1868, he left a surplus in the treasury. Good feeling prevailed in the State, and the people were rapidly recovering from the effects of the war.

President Lincoln had said that the Southern States had never been out of the Union. He wanted them to



PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

set up loyal governments and to send representatives to Congress. He wished them to forget the war. Arkansas had done these things; but unfortunately for her and for our country, President Lincoln was killed, and men less wise and less temperate came to rule our land.

President Johnson, his successor, wanted to carry out Mr. Lincoln's plan, but he was not tactful. With the exception of a few leaders, President Johnson pardoned those who had fought against the Union. In other Southern states he organized governments like that in Arkansas.

Conditions were rapidly improving when a difference arose between President Johnson and Congress with reference to the dealings of the Federal government with the South. The quarrel became so bitter that Congress set aside President Lincoln's wise plan and adopted one of its own. This gave rise to much trouble and again stirred up bitter feelings between the North and the South.

Congress refused to receive into its membership the men sent from Arkansas and from other Southern states, and passed some very unwise laws. One of these laws divided the South into military districts, over which were placed Federal troops; another gave the negroes the right to vote, while it denied the right to many of the best white people, the Confederate soldiers.

The negroes were ignorant and were unfitted either to vote or to hold office. Besides, it was not wise to place the former slaves in power over their old masters. The Union generals who were put in command in Arkansas tried, for the most part, to do their duty; but in spite of all they could do, there was much disorder and even bloodshed.

The negroes and a few whites elected members to a constitutional convention which met in 1868 and established a new government in accordance with the new plan of Congress. An entirely new set of officers was elected, a few of whom were negroes. This change in government is called Reconstruction.

Most of the new State officers were either Union soldiers, or adventurers from the North who had come South after the war. The latter were called "carpet-baggers," because they were said to have nothing when they came except what they could carry in a carpet-bag. This explains why the name "carpet-bag" is applied to the government of this period. These people



ISAAC MURPHY, UNION GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS.

soon acquired a strong influence over the negro, who, on account of his ignorance, was easily duped. The carpet-baggers told him that they had come from the North, that they had freed him from bondage, and that they were going to see that he got justice. But most of these people were not the negro's friends. They were simply using him to advance

their own selfish interests. They stirred up trouble between the whites and the negroes. The former slave was made to believe that his master had wronged him. He was told that the government was going to take his master's land, and that it would give to every negro a mule and forty acres of land. These prom-

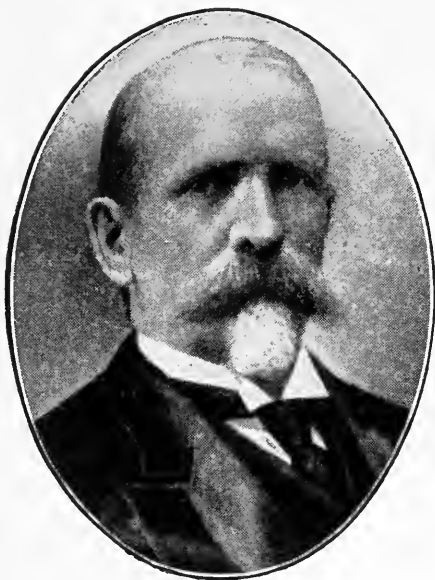
ises spoiled the negro; for they made him impudent and idle. He turned to petty stealing for a livelihood. It was very unfortunate that Arkansas should have fallen into the hands of the carpet-baggers who were in no sense true representatives of the North.

The government in their hands was hurtful; for many of the officials were dishonest and extravagant. They said they wanted to improve the country; so they issued State bonds to aid in building railroads and a levee along the Mississippi. The people were heavily taxed; and the cities, the counties, and the State were burdened with debts. The carpet-bag government in less than six years ran the State into debt over seven millions of dollars.

Besides this, the people complained that the governor abused his power. In the presidential election of 1868 he deprived several counties of the privilege of voting and declared martial law in fourteen counties. He said that life and property in these localities were not safe, and that it was necessary to establish military government in order to preserve order. He divided the counties into four districts and over each placed a commander with a considerable armed force. Some of these soldiers were wicked men; they robbed many people, and even burned the homes of some. These disturbances caused great dissatisfaction. We shall learn in the next chapter how the people overthrew this government.

The most conspicuous man in Reconstruction days in

Arkansas was General Powell Clayton. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the Union army from



POWELL CLAYTON.

Kansas and came to Little Rock with General Steele. For his gallantry he was made brigadier-general and was placed in command at Pine Bluff. At this point he repulsed an attack made by General Marmaduke.

After the war he married and settled on a plantation in Jefferson County. He took an active part in politics and

showed great ability as a party leader. In 1868 he was elected by the Republicans to succeed Isaac Murphy as governor, and a few years later he was sent to the United States Senate. He is still (1905) the leader of his party in Arkansas.

### Test Questions.

What conditions did the Federal soldier find on his return home after the war? the Confederate soldier? Why the difference? After the war, what was the first duty of the Federal government toward the South? Was this necessary for the North? Why? When did the work of reorganizing begin in



Arkansas? Why did it begin so early? What is the story of the government of Arkansas during the latter part of the war? Give a sketch of Governor Murphy's life and administration.

What was President Lincoln's plan of restoring the Southern states? Why was it not carried out? Tell what President Johnson did; what Congress did. Was it right to give the negro the right to vote and to disfranchise the Confederate soldier? Why? What is meant by Reconstruction? Who was the carpet-bagger and why was he so called? What harm did he do? What was the carpet-bag government? What did it do? What are bonds? What complaints were made against the governor? What reason did he assign for his course? What is the militia? What is its duty? Give a sketch of General Clayton's career.

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Point out the territory under each of the State governments in Arkansas during the last year of the war. Name and locate the capital of each.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

### ELISHA BAXTER.

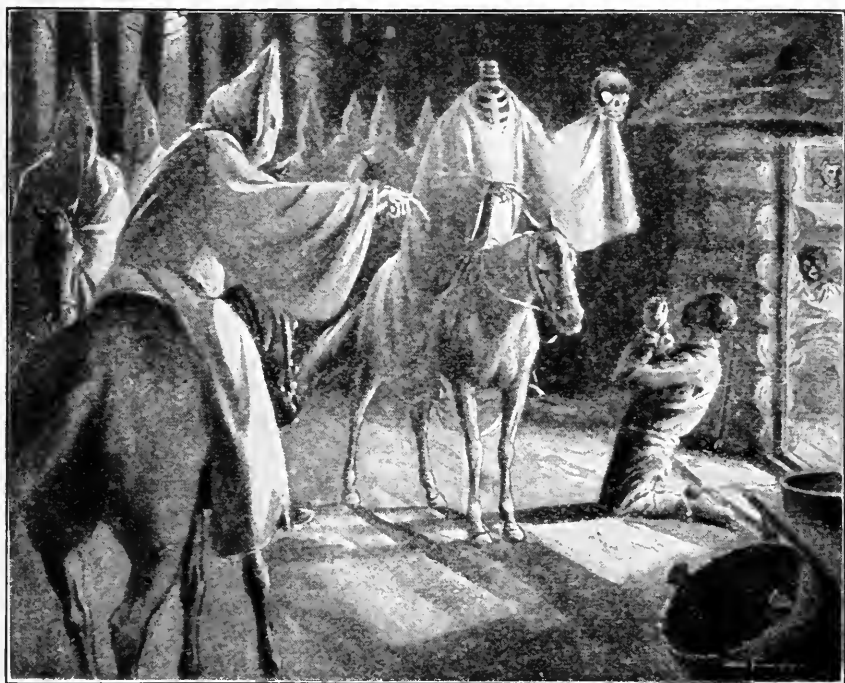
1827-1899.

Many men, feeling that they were wronged by the carpet-bag government and by the misconduct of the negroes, organized for their protection secret societies called Ku Klux Klans. Many good citizens joined the Klans. Its members met at night in some out-of-the-way place and transacted all business. They wore long white robes, card-board hats, and masks; and as they rode through the country at midnight they presented a ghostly appearance.

The negroes said that these Ku Klux were the spirits of dead Confederate soldiers returned to punish them. They told frightful stories of the wonderful doings of these ghosts, such as the drinking of a bucket of water without taking it from the mouth; passing through the tops of houses, and then riding headless through the country, carrying their heads in their hands.

If a negro gave any trouble by his impudence, idleness, or thieving, he was visited by the Klan, flogged, and warned of a worse punishment if the offense were re-

peated. Sometimes an obnoxious carpet-bagger was called upon and whipped. He was ordered to do right or to leave the country. Such visits were always made at night, and the men were always disguised. These steps were taken by the whites for the purpose of stopping



GHOSTLY PUNISHMENT BY THE KU KLUX KLAN.

many of the evils from which they were suffering. The Klans doubtless did much good at first; but later some of them fell under the control of reckless young men. The organization lost its usefulness, and did much harm.

During this period the Republican party was in power

in Arkansas. There were two wings of the party; the native wing, controlled by old citizens of the State, and the carpet-bag wing, controlled by men who had come here during the war or just at its close. Most of the leaders of the native wing had been Whigs before the war. At first the two divisions worked together; but as the time passed there was friction between them. The carpet-bag element controlled the negro vote and gave

very few offices to the native wing. Because of this, the breach between the parties widened, and in 1872 both factions put out a ticket for governor; the carpet-baggers nominating Elisha Baxter, and the natives, Joseph Brooks.



ELISHA BAXTER.

Mr. Baxter was a North Carolinian by birth. He came to Arkansas in 1852 and settled at Batesville. Being a Whig in politics he opposed secession. Most of the Union

men in the State had belonged to this party before the war. After the war they helped to reorganize the

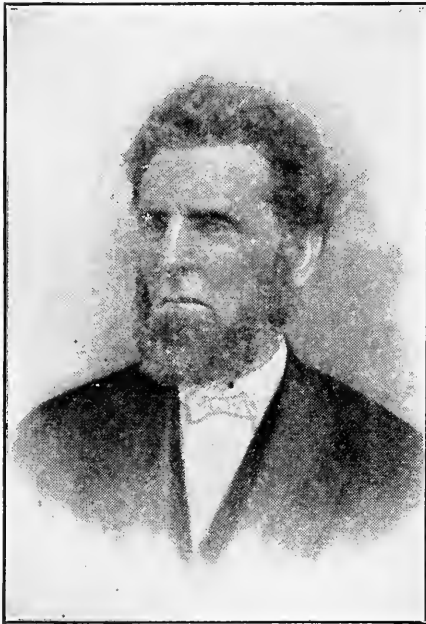
government, and later they aided in overthrowing the carpet-bag rule.

When the war broke out Mr. Baxter did not join either army; and, like many other Union men, he had to go north. He was captured by the Confederates in Missouri and sent to Little Rock. General Holmes ordered that he be tried for treason. He was not guilty; but, fearing for his life, he made his escape. Soon afterward he raised a Union regiment and took command at Batesville.

In 1864 he was elected to the Supreme Court of the State. Later he was chosen to represent Arkansas in the United States Senate, but he was not allowed to take his seat. After the war he was circuit judge for some time. He was not a carpet-bagger, although he was nominated for governor by that party. By selecting him this party hoped to get the support of the older citizens, as Mr. Baxter had lived in the State for many years and was highly respected.

His opponent, Joseph Brooks, had come from Ohio during the war as chaplain of a negro regiment. He was a forcible public speaker, a great debater, and a man of wonderful endurance. He had at first supported the carpet-bag government, but later he opposed it. He wielded a strong influence over the negroes, and it was chiefly for this reason that the native wing nominated him for governor, hoping thereby to obtain the negro

vote. So in the race for governor in 1872 the carpet-bag wing of the Republican party had for their candidate an



JOSEPH BROOKS.

old citizen of Arkansas, and the native wing a man who had been a carpet-bagger.

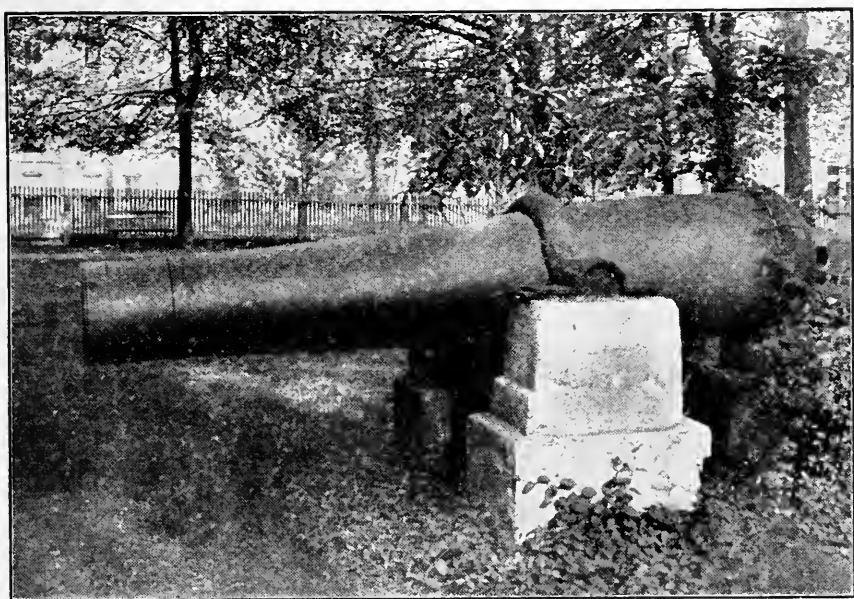
A vigorous campaign was conducted on both sides, and feeling ran high. Most of the Democrats supported Mr. Brooks, because he represented the native wing. Each party claimed the election of its candidate, but the legislature declared Mr. Baxter elected. He was inaugurated as

governor the following year. Mr. Brooks contested the election, but without avail.

Mr. Baxter was an honest man; so when he went into office he told the people that he would favor no class, but would execute the laws in the interest of all, as he was governor of the whole State. He soon showed that he meant what he said. He opposed some bills that his party in the legislature proposed, because these measures would place heavy burdens upon the people. He offended

the leaders of his party by refusing to appoint their friends to office, and they vigorously protested against such proceedings and threatened to impeach him. The undaunted governor replied, "If impeached for cause, I shall submit; if without cause, I shall disperse the tribunal with the bayonet."

When they found that they could not use him as a tool, the leaders of the party deserted him and went over



"LADY BAXTER."

*An old Confederate gun abandoned when the Federals took Little Rock in 1863, and rescued and used by the Baxter forces in 1874.*

to Brooks, who was still contesting the election. In the meantime the Democrats who had voted for Brooks went

over to the support of Baxter because they saw that he was making a good governor.

In April, 1874, Brooks got an order from an inferior court to expel Governor Baxter. When the governor refused to step down and out, Mr. Brooks and his followers ejected him and took possession of the office. This act was the beginning of what is called the Brooks-Baxter War. It lasted one month. Although a few men were killed, there were no regular battles.

After Governor Baxter was driven out of office, he went to St. John's Military College, a few blocks away. There he asked Colonel Gray for protection. As soon as Colonel Gray had shown the Governor a room, he ordered the drum-call. When his student cadets assembled in front of the college, he told them what had happened; he then asked all those who were willing to defend the Governor to step forward three paces. Every boy stepped to the front. That night they guarded the Governor and allowed no one to pass except by special permission.

Both Mr. Brooks and Mr. Baxter claimed to be governor. The Republicans rallied to the standard of Brooks, and the Democrats from all over the State came to the support of Baxter. Brooks' army was stationed at the state house, and Baxter's at a neighboring hotel. These armed forces faced each other for a month, and war might have followed if United States troops had not



been posted between the hostile forces. Finally President Grant said that the legislature was the rightful body to decide who was governor. The legislature met and again declared Mr. Baxter governor. Whereupon the Brooks forces dispersed and the Governor reëntered the state house. This ended the trouble.

### Test Questions.

What was the Ku Klux Klan? Who were its members? What was its object? What were its customs? Were the people right in organizing the Klan? What two wings of the Republican party were in Arkansas during Reconstruction days? Who controlled each? Why could they not work together? Of what party had most of the Union men of Arkansas been members before the war? Give a sketch of the life of Elisha Baxter. Was Baxter justifiable in breaking jail? Sketch the life of Joseph Brooks. Why did the native wing nominate a carpet-bagger? Why did the other wing nominate an old citizen? What body declared Baxter elected? What body now counts the vote for governor? How did Governor Baxter administrate the government? With what result to the State? to his party? to himself? What changes took place in the supporters of Brooks and Baxter? Why? Give an account of the Brooks-Baxter War. How was it settled? What do you think of Governor Baxter? of the carpet-bagger? Give the later history of Governor Baxter.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### AUGUSTUS H. GARLAND.

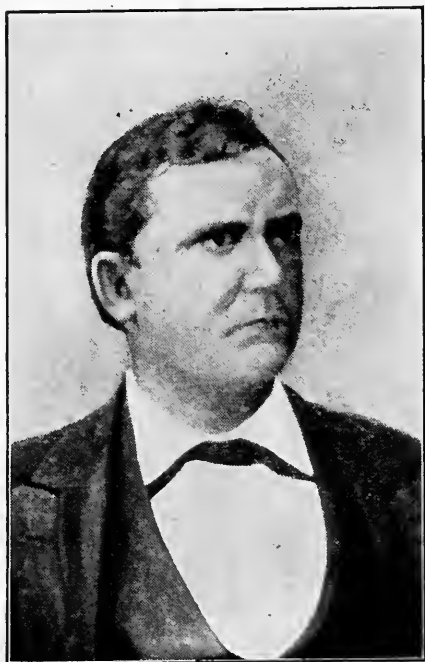
1832-1899.

In the work of overthrowing carpet-bag rule and of placing the people again in control of the State government, Governor Baxter had many able assistants. Some of the most prominent were A. H. Garland, U. M. Rose, H. C. Caldwell, Benjamin Johnson, R. C. Newton, T. J. Churchill, Elbert H. English, and F. W. Compton. These men gave him loyal support and advice. Without their aid, he would have failed. They were true patriots, and they should not be forgotten. At Washington City Albert Pike, Robert W. Johnson, and W. W. Wilshire effectively presented the people's cause to President Grant.

As a return for such faithfulness, Mr. Baxter was determined to establish a government that would do away with the evils of carpet-bag government and give the people their rights. Many of the old Confederate soldiers had not been allowed to vote or to hold office. The Governor proposed to right this wrong. For this reason he approved an act of the legislature calling a constitu-

tional convention. Many of the ablest men in the State were elected to this convention. They framed the constitution under which we live. By this constitution, all men were allowed to vote, and nearly all officers were to be elected by the people instead of being appointed by the governor. The legislature, the cities, and the counties were forbidden to issue bonds or to levy heavy taxes.

The Governor then ordered an election of officers under the new constitution. This he did, despite the fact that he would lose half his term, as he had been elected for four years and had served but two. The Democrats, appreciating his services, offered him the nomination for governor, although he was a Republican. He declined the honor, saying that if he accepted the nomination it would appear that he had done what he had in



AUGUSTUS H. GARLAND.

order to get the support of the Democrats. He had done what he honestly thought to be right, and he

asked for no reward. After Mr. Baxter's refusal, the nomination was given to Augustus H. Garland; and he was elected without opposition.

Mr. Garland's parents moved from Tennessee to Washington in Hempstead County in 1833, when their son was only a year old. The father died soon after their arrival in Arkansas. The mother, who was a strong woman both mentally and morally, gave her son an elementary education at home and then sent him to college at Bardstown, Kentucky—the school that has given us several of our most prominent men. After completing his college course, Mr. Garland studied law and entered upon the practice of his chosen profession at his home town, Washington. This place has furnished Arkansas four Supreme Court judges—Daniel Ringo, Edward Cross, John Eakin, and B. B. Battle—and three governors—Dan W. Jones, A. H. Garland, and James K. Jones, the last two of whom later became United States Senators.

In 1856 Mr. Garland moved to Little Rock. Being a young man of strong mind and of great energy, he rapidly advanced in his profession. He was a Whig in politics; and, in the Secession Convention of 1861, though only twenty-nine years of age, he took a leading part among the conservatives in opposing and in preventing radical action at the first session. But when war became inevitable, he reluctantly yielded and voted for secession.

Throughout the war he was one of Arkansas' representatives in the Confederate Congress, serving part of that time in the lower house and part in the Senate.

At the close of the war President Johnson pardoned Mr. Garland, who resumed the practice of law in Little Rock. About this time Congress passed a law prohibiting those who had aided the South in the War of Secession from practicing in the United States Courts. This was a heavy blow to the leading lawyers of the South, depriving them, as it did, of one of their chief means of support. All Southerners

felt that the law was unjust and some thought that Congress had no right to pass it. Mr. Garland was of this opinion, and he resolved to test its validity. He carried a case to the Supreme Court of the United States. He argued that the law was invalid and won his case. The court set aside the



WASHINGTON COUNTY COURT-  
HOUSE AT FAYETTEVILLE.

law because it violated the constitution. This was a brilliant victory for Mr. Garland, and it won for him a national reputation as a lawyer.

In 1867 Mr. Garland was elected to the United States

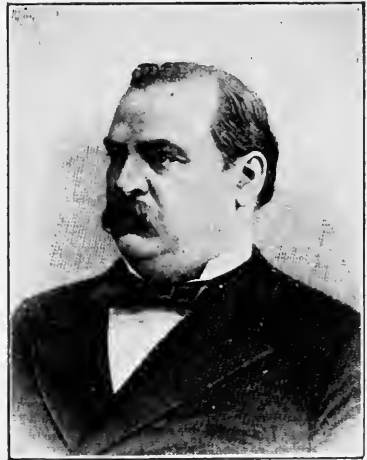
Senate, but he was not allowed to take his seat, as Congress refused at this time to admit representatives from the South. In 1874 when Mr. Brooks expelled Governor Baxter and seized the state house, Mr. Garland espoused the Governor's cause and was appointed deputy secretary of state. Perhaps he had as much or more than anyone else to do in laying the plans and directing the movements which resulted in restoring Governor Baxter to power.

Later, as governor, Mr. Garland pursued a broad and liberal policy. Feeling ran high when the carpet-bag government was overthrown and there was a demand for punishment of the leaders. But Governor Garland allowed neither persecutions nor prosecutions. He administered the government with so much tact that the wounds of the past were rapidly healed and good feeling restored. He said that when he went into office there was not money enough in the treasury to buy kindling to start a fire. The people however began to rebuild their lost fortunes; they restored prosperity to the State; and they again filled the treasury. So hopeful were the people that the legislature appropriated money to be used in displaying the resources of Arkansas at the great Centennial Exposition held at Philadelphia, in 1876. Arkansas took several prizes on her cotton, corn, and timber exhibits.

In 1877 Mr. Garland was elected to the United States

Senate, and at the expiration of his first term he was re-elected. By his preëminent abilities he restored the glory of former days when Arkansas was represented in the Senate by Ashley and Sevier. He enjoyed the distinction of being one of the great constitutional lawyers in the Senate. In 1884 President Cleveland appointed him Attorney-General of the United States—a marked honor alike for Mr. Garland and for his State, as it was the first and the only time that Arkansas has been represented in the President's Cabinet.

When Mr. Garland retired from public life in 1889, he located in Washington City where he practiced law until his death in 1899. He was pleading a case before the Supreme Court when the end came. In closing his argument he raised his hand and said, "And this is our contention," when suddenly his tongue ceased to speak, his lips refused to move; he staggered and fell to the floor. He soon breathed his last. It was in this same room that Senator Ashley in 1848 was stricken with the illness from which he quickly died.



PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

Mr. Garland in many respects was a truly great man.

He had a vigorous intellect, was a forcible public speaker, and a profound lawyer. He was generous in his nature, simple in his habits, and had a contempt for sham. He was a man of convictions, and he had the courage to express them. He was jealous of the honor of his State; and, in 1880, he spoke in nearly every county, opposing with all his might the Fishback Amendment, which repudiated the "Holford Bonds." He argued that it was neither honest nor honorable for the State to refuse to pay these bonds.

### Test Questions.

Who assisted Governor Baxter in his fight for the rights of the people? What was Mr. Baxter's policy after he was reinstated? What is meant by a constitutional convention? How many such conventions has Arkansas had? Give the date of each. How are the members of a convention selected? What is their duty? What changes in the government were made by the convention of 1874? What is the difference between a constitutional convention and a legislature?

Sketch the life of A. H. Garland. How did he win reputation as a lawyer? To what high office did this lead him? What evidences of prosperity in the State were there during his administration? Give the circumstances of his death. What is your estimate of Mr. Garland?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Locate Washington. *Map of the United States.*—Locate Philadelphia.



## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER.

Perhaps no other state in the Union has been so misrepresented as Arkansas. She has had much bad advertising, and the ignorant beyond her borders have wrong ideas of her and her people. By such people she is supposed to be the home of shiftless squatters, robbers, and cutthroats, who make the bowie-knife and the pistol the law of the land. Probably in the early days there was some excuse for such ignorance.

The story of "The Arkansas Traveler" is largely responsible for this wrong impression of our State. The story goes that a wealthy planter of Chicot County, Sanford C. Faulkner, lost his way in the Bayou Mason country and by chance came upon an old, leaky, dilapidated log hut. The squatter seated on a whiskey-barrel under the eaves of his cabin, was sawing on a squeaky old fiddle. The now famous colloquy ensued.

Mr. Faulkner, pointing to a road near by, said, "Where does that road go?"

"It ain't gone no whar since I've been in these dig-gins," replied the squatter.

Then Mr. Faulkner asked for lodging for the night and received the answer: "Thar ain't but one dry spot

in this house, an' me an' my ol' o-man has to have that."

"Why don't you cover your house?" was the next question.

"Waal, when it's rainin' I can't; an' when it's dry, I don't need to."

Failing in his efforts to obtain hospitality, Mr. Faulkner asked his friend to lend him his fiddle.

Pleased that his "companion in arms" should receive attention, he handed it to Mr. Faulkner, who played so well that he won the heart of the surly old fellow; and that night he was given the one bed and the one dry spot in the house.

This story, with additions full of coarse humor, has



CYPRESS SWAMP IN CHICOT COUNTY.

been printed in every jest book and has caused peals of laughter. It has been set to music, and we all have enjoyed its melody. The scene has been painted, and it never fails to draw a crowd. But few colloquies are so famous, and perhaps none has afforded the public so much pleasure. While it has given the world much amusement, it has injured Arkansas. Through it the



A MODERN FARMHOUSE.

State been held up to ridicule, and the people at large have pictured the typical Arkansan as a reproduction of the shiftless squatter in buckskin breeches and coon-skin cap, seated by his leaky hut, sawing a fiddle. What was written in fun, has been accepted as truth.

Mr. Faulkner may have met such a character, but he

is not a true type of the Arkansas pioneer. Our early settlers were industrious and progressive Anglo-Saxons from the older states. Their cabins were covered; they were neat and clean; their fields were cultivated; and they themselves were kind, hospitable, upright people. As time progressed, the pioneer also progressed. His cabin became a double log-house with side rooms. He and his neighbors built schoolhouses and churches, and supported them.

If the squatter ever existed, he has disappeared. In place of the sturdy pioneer, we have his grandson, who is moved by the spirit of his forefathers. He has widened his fields, drained his ponds, and planted his orchards. He has a beautiful modern home, well furnished. His son is at the State University; his daughter, just home from college, has brought with her the refining influence of culture.

The world is beginning to realize that Arkansas is a state of marvelous resources. She is a great agricultural state. Her soil is new and fertile, and it is not surprising that most of her people are on the farm. Levees, ditches, and canals have redeemed the alluvial lands along the St. Francis, the Arkansas, and the Mississippi rivers. In 1900 her farms were valued at one hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars and turned out farm products worth nearly eighty millions more. Her crops are varied. She produces corn almost enough for home

use, is fifth state in the Union in the quantity of her cotton yield, raises a large potato crop, and has successfully grown small grain. The Ozark region produces fruit equal to the world's best—apples, peaches, grapes, and

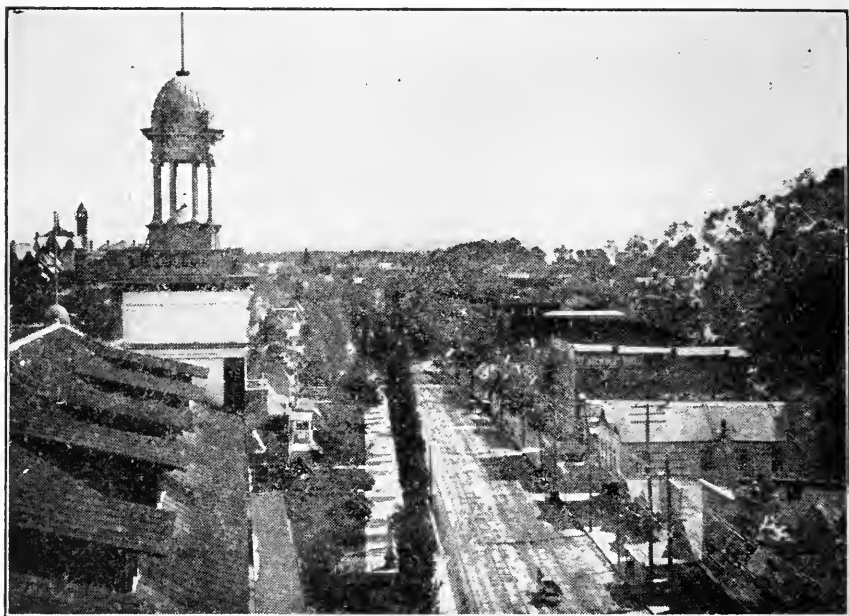


*Courtesy of W. G. Vineenheller.*

#### IRRIGATED RICE FARM AT LONOKE.

strawberries, in large quantities; and every year thousands of acres are being added to the orchards of the State. Fruit-growing is developing into a great industry.

Our State has an almost inexhaustible timber supply. Vast forests occupy over three-fourths of her area. Walnut, gum, oak, and hickory abound north of the Arkansas River. In the south is an immense pine belt, and eypress swamps cover most of the eastern part of the State. Her hard wood, both for variety and richness, is



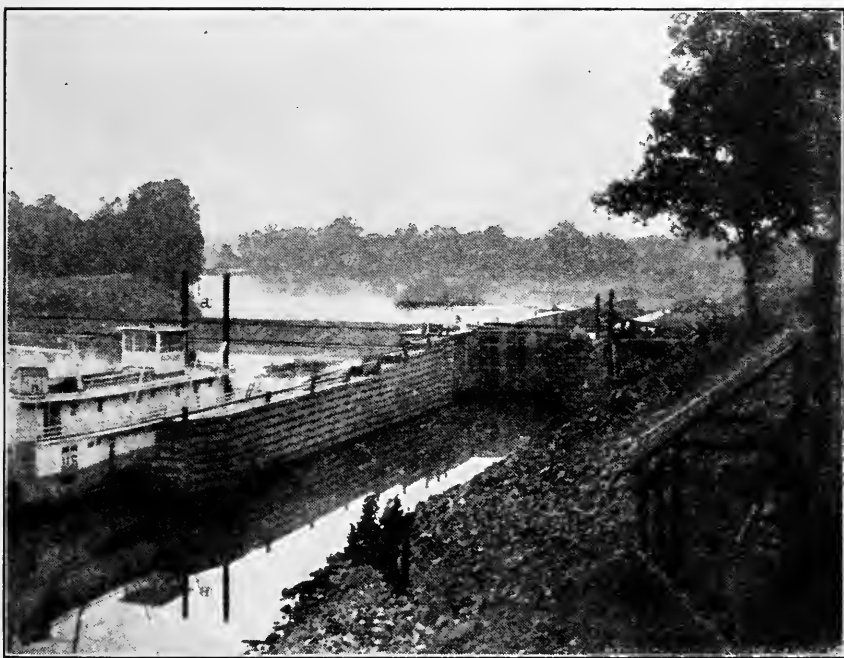
VIEW OF HOT SPRINGS, SHOWING ROW OF BATH HOUSES  
TO THE LEFT.

unexcelled. The lumber and timber products of the State yield annually nearly twenty-five millions of dollars, almost one-third the value of her total farm products.

At Eureka, Heber, and Hot Springs, we have discov-

ered health-giving fountains, as famous now as that for which de Soto sought so diligently. Hundreds of cures are effected yearly at these springs, and by bringing people from afar they have done much to make the resources of Arkansas known among the states.

Nature has indeed lavished her gifts upon our State. Beneath her soil is deposited untold wealth, and it is here that the Spaniard might have found his El Dorado.

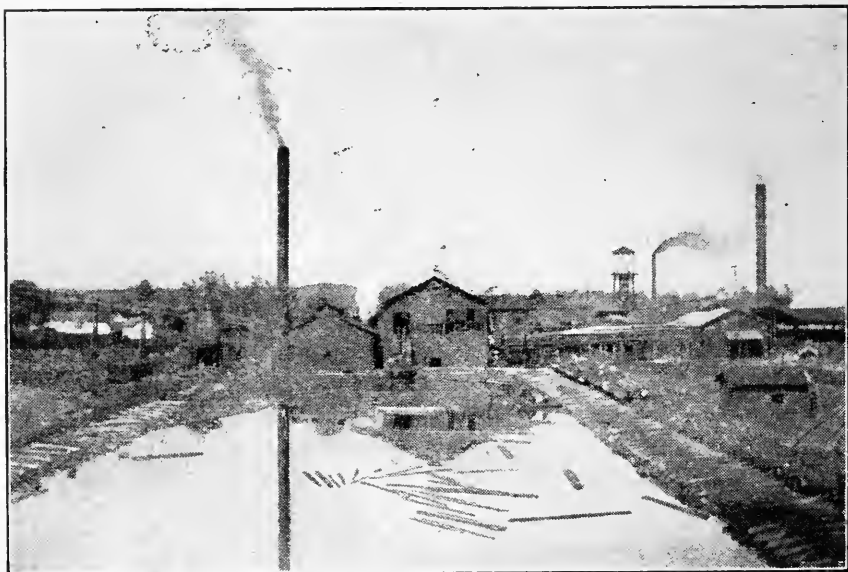


*Courtesy of A. H. Purdue.*

#### GOVERNMENT LOCK AND DAM AT BATESVILLE.

Marion, Boone, Newton, Searcy, and Baxter counties are flooded with zinc. In order to reach this rich ore, the

railroads are tunneling mountains and spanning chasms. Mining towns are springing up on all sides. The vast coal fields of Sebastian and Johnson counties are capable of supplying all the factories of the country.



*Courtesy of A. H. Purdue.*

#### SAW MILL AT DANVILLE.

Arkansas, with her abundance of raw material, her coal and her railroad facilities, promises to become a great manufacturing state. Her growth in this respect is remarkable. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the number of manufacturing plants in the State was only 518. In 1900 there were 4,794. The money invested in such plants rose during this period of forty years from one and a third millions of dollars to over thirty-



five millions. In 1900 the value of all our manufactured products was forty-five millions of dollars, representing an increase of one hundred per cent. in ten years. A large part of this wealth is represented by the output from wool and cotton factories, foundries, and flour mills.

Our State is making equally rapid progress in education. Though our free school system has grown up since the war, schools are open in every district, and free school privileges are afforded to every boy and girl of school age regardless of color. In 1902 there were enrolled in these schools 340,695 children, and the schools were open about ninety-one days in the year.



SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AT LITTLE ROCK.

Our people the same year raised for their schools over one and a half million dollars and had twice that sum invested in school houses and equipments.

While the State has thus been making large outlays for common schools, she has provided also for the higher

education of her people. She is maintaining the University at Fayetteville for the white population, and the Branch Normal College at Pine Bluff for colored people. Both of these are good schools and taken together are educating more than one thousand young men and young women. The State is moreover caring for her unfortunates. She has erected and equipped at Little Rock



INSTITUTE FOR DEAF MUTES AT LITTLE ROCK.

splendid buildings for the blind, the deaf mute, and the feeble-minded. At the hands of competent teachers, the blind and the deaf mute receive the best instruction, while the feeble-minded are properly cared for. The State has moreover provided a home near Little Rock for disabled Confederate soldiers and sailors, and is pensioning all needy Confederate veterans.

The "Arkansas Traveler" has passed. Should he return, he could easily find his way out of the swamps; for we have three thousand miles of railroad. He would discover that our people are the equal of any. Why should they not be? They are drawn from all sections; states north, east, south and west have sent their best. Less than seven per cent of our people live in cities of more than 4,000 inhabitants, and only five per cent are of foreign parentage. Contrast with this the fact that ninety-one per cent of the people of Rhode Island live in cities, and that three-fourths of those in Minnesota are of foreign parentage. We have, therefore, a people of good American stock, and great opportunity for development. We ought to be proud of our State, for she is on the eve of great things. Let us resolve to have a share in her progress and to make her the great State that she is capable of being.

### Test Questions.

What has hitherto been the reputation of Arkansas beyond her borders? How did this idea grow? How can it be disproved? What are Arkansas' natural resources? What is meant by "alluvial lands"? by the Bayou Mason country? In what besides natural resources does the wealth of a state consist? What wealth of this kind has Arkansas? In what other ways has Arkansas progressed? What is meant by "manufacturing plants"? What can you contribute to the progress of Arkansas?

### Map Questions.

*Map of Arkansas.*—Find the cotton belt of Arkansas; the grain section; the fruit section; the timber regions; the swamps; the redeemed alluvial lands. Locate Eureka, Heber, Hot Springs, the Bayou Mason country.

## KEY TO PRONUNCIATION.

ā as <i>a</i> in <i>ate</i> .	ī as <i>i</i> in <i>ice</i> .
ă “ “ “ <i>at</i> .	ĩ “ “ “ <i>it</i> .
ä “ “ “ <i>arm</i> .	ō “ <i>o</i> “ <i>no</i> .
ḃ “ “ “ <i>all</i> .	ǒ “ “ “ <i>not</i> .
ã “ “ “ <i>air</i> .	ö “ <i>oo</i> “ <i>food</i> .
ḃ “ “ “ <i>sofa</i> .	ȝ “ <i>o</i> “ <i>idiot</i> .
ē “ <i>e</i> “ <i>we</i> .	ū “ <i>u</i> “ <i>use</i> .
ě “ “ “ <i>end</i> .	ŭ “ “ “ <i>us</i> .
ẽ “ “ “ <i>her</i> .	

ñ as French nasal *n* in *bon, enfant*.

zh as *z* in *azure*.



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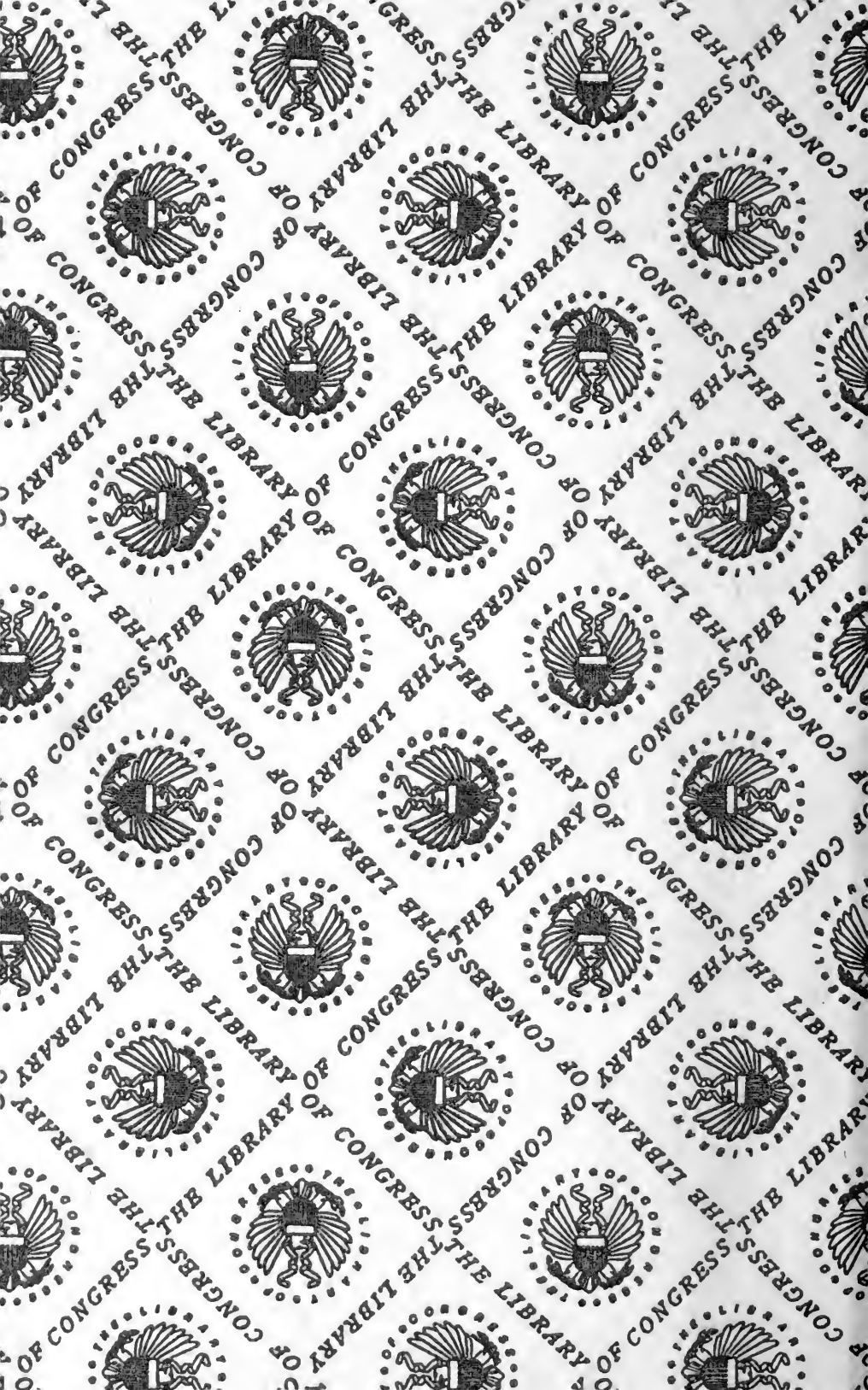
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